

EAT AT BRITAIN'S FINEST RESTAURANTS AND PAY JUST 45P FOR YOUR PARTNER

SEE THIS SECTION, PAGE 20, FOR DETAILS TOKEN COLLECT



'As the world looks on, a family reaps Kosovo's deadly harvest

in Pristina

AND STEPHEN CASTLE in Brussels

WESTERN POWERS were dragged another step closer to military intervention in the Kosovo crisis yesterday when another massacre, the worst since the killing of 45 civilia is t Racak 10 days ago, shattered -he four-month cease-fire.

As Christopher Hill, the US peace envoy, arrived to try to restart negotiations between the Serbian authorities and the Albanian community, the bodies of five ethnic Albanians were found in a tractor-trailer in the south-west of the province. The two adults and three children, members of the same family, had been shot with a machine-gun powerful enough to penetrate the tractor's engine block and a handgun. A man and a woman lay sprawled in the cab, both with existive head wounds. Two aged 10 and 12, and a man were dead on a pile of corn stalks in

The Albanian-run Kosovo Information Centre quoted witnesses as saying a troop carrier of the Yugoslav security forces opened fire on the tractor on Sunday.

An investigative judge from the nearby town of Djakovica came to the scene escorted by police in armoured cars and civilian vehicles. Six vehicles of the Kosovo Verification Mission were also at the scene.

"The bodies look very bad," said Les House, a member of

The latest violence has revived demands for military force to be used against the Ser-San leader Slobodan Milosevic.



stand-by period for military action from 96 to 48 hours. The lat- they expressed outrage at last Kosovan verification mission est killings may be enough to week's Racak massacre. "Five set the clock ticking. The Foreign Secretary, Robin Cook,

eign ministers in Brussels that more bodies have been found,"

the British contingent in the and asked for a full report into the circumstances of the latest he said. "I have been in contact atrocity." Mr Cook said there said after a meeting of EU for- with the general in charge of was a need to keep alive "the (KLA) round the negotiating force".

threat" against the Serb regime. But the priority was to bring the Serb leadership and the Kosovo Liberation Army

pressure of a credible military table as soon as possible. Ministers of the Contact Group. meeting in London on Friday. called for a "heavy dose of international pressure, backed by

the freeing on Saturday of nine KLA members by Yugoslav authorities and the release of five Serbs kidnapped by the KLA.

Blame for the latest mas-

sacre was put by Albanians on Serbian security forces. The Serbs said the territory where the bodies were found "is controlled by the separatist socalled KLA". They said a police patrol came under fire from a car yesterday near Glogovac. There was oo independent confirmatioo hut it is clear Mr Milosevic's government wants to establish that every provocatioo is matched.

By yesterday afternoon forensic tags marking entry holes oo the tractor and evidence on the ground suggested that another tortuous investigation was under way into whether this was a massacre, as claimed by the KLA.

After the Racak killings Serhia ordered out William Walker, head of the Kosovo "peace verifiers", for decouncing Serhian police for carrying out a massacre. It also refused to allow international war-crimes investigators into the country. After talks, Belgrade agreed to let him stay. Yesterday he reiterated that "unbiased observers" would have no doubt that what happened at Racak was a massacre.

The deaths of another five civilians emphasise the difficulty of Mr Hill's task. The talks, which began under the threat of Nato bombing in October have fallen apart and the growing number of bloody interruptions to the truce between Belgrade and the KLA suscitate. Mr Hill was noocommittal yesterday after a meeting with Ibrahim Rugova. spokesman for the Kosovo Albanian community but his credibility is being undermined by the inability of the international community to guarantee the safety of his people.

Gay sex at 16 vote in Commons

THE HOUSE of Commons was By ANN TRENEMAN set to vote overwhelmingly yesterday in favour of lowering the age of consent for gay sex from 18 to 16. The debate was seveo hours long and, at times, was intensely personal, tackling such subjects as sex, relationships, young love and something

called "lifestyle". This is the second time in the past year that MPs have debated the measure. The last Bill, which was passed last summer with a majority of 207, rejected by the Lords. Yes-terday's Bill was the new improved versioo aimed at what it can be like to be a teenag-

staving off further revolt. The most significant change is a new offence for a "person of trust" who has sex with a young person in their care.

the Lords would once again strike it down when it reaches the Upper House, probably after Easter But the Commons was not deterred. One MP remarked that this was the House's chance to "act like an adult". On the whole this was achieved and with eloquence. Men in suits spoke of

er in the middle of an identity crisis. The Labour MP Ann Keen said:"Real love, real care, real coocern means making sure young people are not crimi-

nalised for their sexuality." The Home Secretary, Jack Last night there was a rumour Straw, opened the debate by explaining the Bill was not about lifestyle or even sex. "Instead it is a question of equality before the law," he said. The current law had led to "huge human unhappiness".

Sir Norman Fowler was not so sure. He voted to lower the age of consent to 18 in 1994 but drew the line yesterday. The of God. But even Dr Paisley con-

public, he said, was against it. The new offence for "abuse of trust" has won over many Labour MPs, including Bassetlaw's Joe Ashton. He brought a sheaf of cuttings to show what

the public thought about it all. Occasionally you heard the voice of homophobia. "People do have the choice to maintain self-discipline," said a Tory, Desmond Swayne. Earlier, the Democratic Unionist Party leader. Dr Ian Paisley, had handed in a 18,000-name petition calling homosexuality an abomination that would lead to the judgement



ceded the almighty has no control over Europe, which has decreed the UK must make the age of consent for homosexual and heterosexual sex the same.

'11 killed' in Iraq raid

killed and wounded dozens of civilians yesterday in an air raid on the southern city of Basra.

Baghdad said British and American aircraft killed several people, including womeo and children, when they hit houses oo the outskirts of the city. "The criminals bombed a number of residential areas ... in Abu Flus, Basra airport and the porthern Rumala (oil) field," the official news agency INA said. The indiscriminate and savage bombings have led to the martyrdom of more civilians, and

IRAQ CLAIMED US aircraft By ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington

> sites to search for bodies of martyrs and to rescue the wounded and take them to

A CNN producer in Iraq said he had seen at least 10 houses destroyed or damaged, though he did oot see any civilian casualties. He said that he could see no air defence sites in the area where the damage had been done.

The Pentagon said that US carrier-based aircraft attacked Sketch, page 8 | civil defence units rushed to the | an Iraqi missile site and air de-

fence installations north of Basra yesterday morning after Iraqi aircraft entered the southern no-fly zone, though it had no information on casualties. But it confirmed that some of the laser-guided bombs had missed their target, and said it was assessing bomb damage reports. Britain denied its aircraft were involved.

The claim and counter-claim came as the US said its forces had been involved in at least five incidents yesterday in the oorthern and southern no-fly

Heaviest attack, page 10

INSIDE THIS SECTION

Man remanded in custody A man was remanded in custody accused of kidnapping two 10-year-olds

David Montgomery to go Chief executive of Mirror Group is due to depart today Olympics scandal The IOC faces possible legal action from cities that lost out in the awarding of games

Clinton trial The Senate trial of President Clinton began its final week Foreign P10

Netanyahu attacked Israel's sacked defence minister. Yitzhak Mordechai. criticised the Prime Minister Foreign P11

Sierre Leone abductions Rebels seized two European journalists in Freetown Foreign P12

Microsoft takes NTL stake Microsoft injected \$500m into NTL in return for 5 per cent of the media group. Business P13

Andre Agassi is out of the Australian Open Sport P22

16.00 FFr Chreits

INSIDE THE REVIEW

Golden Globes What's a hunch of Hollywood hacks got to do with movies? Answer: they give the prizes Review Front

David Aaronovitch How to make parental choice a reality for all Comment P3

__295 toyed Italy ...

Hamish McRae The International Olympic Committee: a brand name in need of a business brain Comment P5

Down on the farm The fat cat whose subsidies make him a figure of hate Features P8

Tom Lubbock Plump flesh, limp limbs and frocks - our love affair with In gres' sensuality Visual Arts P10

Sunday Business Jeff Randall's success story: the FT meets Loaded Media P14



Madrid • Rome • Paris* • Barcelona • Munich • Düsseldorf (Mgl) • Nice • Berlin • Shannon

Me IM

0541 500 300

28.00 NV Stagapore S\$8.55 Swedon 23.00 SV Turkey 1,250,000 to 350 Es Spain 25 Pts Swellzertand 5.00 SF USA 53.50

You're the winner when you book Dehonair just voted Best Low Cost Airline. Best for value, comfort, quality, reliability, style ..and Affordable Business Class.

debonair D

⊕ 🕶 \varTheta 🖜

Daily scheduled flights from London Luton and Gatwick** • Affordable Business Class • Frequent Flyer Programme • More comfort • Seat assignment • Free refreshments • Convenient airport travel links

ODE

Meet 8.20 3,20

IN STHE INDEPENDENT TOMORROW

'So, Peter Tatchell, would you describe yourself as an attention seeker?"

THE GAY RIGHTS ACTIVIST ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

FASHION WHAT'S HOT ON THE HIGH STREET PLUS THEATRE, **MIDWEEK MONEY** & FINANCE

, RICHARD WILLIAMS, DAVID AARONOVITCH, SUSANNAH FRANKEL, THOMAS SUTCLIFFE, MILES KINGTON, SUE ARNOLD, ANDREAS WHITE

Man charged with kidnap says sorry

A MAN who was remanded in BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH custody accused of kidnapping two 10-year-old girls yesterday expressed his sorrow and remorse at what had happened to

Alan Edward Hopkinson, a former bank worker, appeared before Hastings magistrates in Sussex charged with 10 offences including kidnap and false imprisonment.

But in an extraordinary statement after the hearing, his solicitor said Mr Hopkinson wished he could put the clock back and that he hoped the two best friends would get over their ordeal,

Graeme White, a former mayor of Hastings, said Mr Hopkinson had instructed him to issue the statement despite the fact that he has not yet "Mr Hopkinson specifically

is very sorry about what happened to the little girls," he said. "He does hope they will be

ahle to put matters behind them given time. He wishes to

say that he himself wishes he could put the clock back." He added that Mr Hopkinson, an unemployed bachelor, had been very depressed and

"He has not been very well but he has had two good nights sleep and he has been given sleeping tablets by the doctor. He has been in some physical discomfort with his stomach. "Obviously it has been a

great shock for him to be ar-

When asked if Mr Hopkinson would therefore be pleading guilty to the charges, Mr White said: "There are no specific admissions that have been made. I cannot say any more about it at all. He just asked me to ex-

Earlier, Mr Hopkinson, of asked me to say to you that he Langney, Eastbourne, appeared in the dock flanked by security guards. He wore a jacket, grey trousers and a green crew neck pullover.

He did not speak during the

five minute hearing during which he was accused of two counts of child abduction, two counts of false imprisonment. two of kidnapping and four others relating to serious assaults. He was remanded in custody to Lewes prison for one week. He will reappear in court on 1 February. An expert criminal lawyer,

said yesterday that it was extraordinary for a man to express his remorse for an offence hefore he had pleaded as it could prejudice his chances of denying the charges. "It is certainly very unusual and unadvisable," he said. "I have never heard of this before - solicitors usually advise their clients to say nothing at all. If I was instructed to issue a similar statement I would probably refuse.

"It may be that he is hoping it will act as mitigation if he puts his hands up straight away but it's certainly not very clever." Mr White made no application for bail and reporting re-

strictions were not lifted.



Graeme White, the solicitor for Mr Alan Edward Hopkinson, after the hearing yesterday

Paul Hackett/Reuters

Yemen seeks extradition of militant London imam

YEMEN YESTERDAY asked: By PATRICK COCKBURN Britain for the extradition of in Sanaa, Abu Hamza al-Masri, the militant Islamic cleric based in London, for carrying out armed attacks in Yemen. Abu Hamza has admitted to contacts with the leader of the kidnappers who last month killed four hostages, including three

The request came in a letter from the Yemeni President, Ali Abdullah Saleh to Tony Blair, handed to Victor Henderson,

the British ambassador in

news agency, it "included a request by the Yemeni government to hand over the terrorist Abu Hamza al-Masri, who is residing in London, to be tried on charges of carrying out terrorist activities in Yemen and in several other Arab states."

According to the official

as a matter of course.

Earlier a senior Yemeni official expressed his anger over Britain's behaviour to Yemen since the killing of the hostages on 28 December. "Yemen is being subjected to a stream of smears in the mass media instigated by the Foreign Office,"

He was particularly enraged by the lack of British govern-

HIGH TIDES

6.00 5 6.53 3

law) group based in Finshury Park, north London, who says he isan Afghan war veteran who lost his hands in a mine explosion. The sheikh had just said on the Arab satellite television channel al-Jezira, widely watched in Yemen, that foreign

visitors to the country were like dumb animals: whoever imprisons them can do what he likes with them". He said

A spokesman for the Home : ment action against Abu Yemen was not a Muslim state who killed the four tourists, is of the kidnapping, between Abu dition request. "The Yemen was Office said it neither confirmed Hamza, the head of the because it was not based on the still unclear. But to the Yemeni Hamza in London and Abu have a big cheek to ask for in the land of the because it was not based on the still unclear. But to the Yemeni Hamza in London and Abu have a big cheek to ask for in the land of the because it was not based on the still unclear. But to the Yemeni Hamza in London and Abu have a big cheek to ask for in the land of the because it was not based on the still unclear. But to the Yemeni Hamza in London and Abu have a big cheek to ask for in the land of the because it was not based on the still unclear. But to the Yemeni Hamza in London and Abu have a big cheek to ask for in the land of the because it was not based on the still unclear. But to the Yemeni Hamza in London and Abu have a big cheek to ask for in the land of th nor denied extradition requests Supporters of Sharia (Islamic Sharia. By his own account government it looks like a plot Hassan in his mountain extradition here", he said. Abu Hamza had told the kidnappers to "do all you can to preserve the blood of Muslims", implying that it was acceptable to kill Christians.

The exact relationship between Abu Hamza, with his calls for holy war, the five British Muslims on trial this week in Aden for planning armed attacks and Abu Hassan. the leader of the kidnap gang conversation, made at the time

instigated from Britain with the knowledge of British intelligence.

"Abu Hamza did not hide his intelligence connections," said the Yemeni official. "Soon you will not he able to tell the difference hetween London and Tehran [as centres for Islamic militants]."

He pointed to the telephone

Hamza's role in the hostagetaking. He added that the involvement of the British group facing trial in Aden was underlined by the fact that one of them, Mohsin Ghalain, is Abu Hamza's step-son and his full son, Mohammed Mustapha Kamil, is on the run in Yemen.

hideout, as evidence of Abu

Abu Hamza said last night he was not worried by the extraTheir economic policy i

Yemen has forced the Yemeni people to resort to kidnapping to get their basic rights, so the situation is of their own making." He said it was "hypocritical to say the least to allow Salman Rushdie to publish what be calls a dream but then persecute [the group] Supporters of Sharia for simply reporting true events abroad.

BRITAIN TODAY Noon today

FORECAST

General situation East and south-east England will have some sunshine but it will cloud over with ram later this afternoon. Wales and western England will have a lew showers, merging to give longer periods of rain around midday with snow possible over the hills. Northern Ireland will be breezy and wet, the rain turning to sleet or snow later. Scotland will be cold with wintry showers, but will be cold with wintry showers, but will be cold with wintry showers.

SE England, London, E Anglia: It will start cold, but bright before rapidly fouding over with rain breaking out from westerly wind. Max remp 8-10C [46-50F].

Cent S England, Midlands, Channel Is, & & N8 England: Soon be cloudy with rain spreading from the west. A fresh south-westerly wit temp 7-9C (45-48F).

N Ireland: Heavy rain for a time, but becoming brighter, but colder with some sleet or show showers on the hills. A fresh south-westerly wind, becoming nor westerly, Max temp 4-6C (39-43F). SW & SE Scotland, Glasgow, Edinburgh: It will be cold, but bright before rain and hill-snow spread eastwards. A moderate south-westerly wind, backing north-westerly later. Max temp 3-6C (37-43F).

NW & NE Scotland, Aberdoen, W & N Isles: There will be some sunshine, but it will also be rather cold and showery, the showers of steet or snow in the hills. A moderate to fresh north-westerly wind. Max temp 3-5C (37-41F).

Cold on Wednesday with overnight rain and hill-snow clearing the south-east leav-ing sunny spells before more rain spreads into the west. Apart from the far north-east of Scotland, most places will be very mild on Thursday, but cloudy with rain.

London: A12 Green Man Roundabout, Leytonstone Major readworks on new M11 ink road, Unit 31st December, Cambridgeshive A10 between Foxon and M11. Resurtacing and bridge maintenance work at Shopreth M8I. Unith 14th February, Bristot: M5 J18-19. Major Readworks on Avormouth Bridge, Unit 23rd June 2001, Lumcashites M6 Belween J27 Standish and J28 Leytand. Roadworks: controllow and a 50rph speed first either side of Charnock flictard Sorvices, Unit 15th February.

chrotion work, Until 28th February.
South Yorkshim: MI Between J24 Tinsley
Visduct IA6109) & J34 Tinsley Visduct
IA61781. Sheffield, Camingeway reduced to 2
lanes southbound, Until 21st November 2000.
Dumfrites and GaBoway: A74 between
Beatlock and J16 Annandale. Major roadworks, until 31st Jensen.

YESTERDAY LIGHTING UP EXTREMES Coldest (day): Eskdafemuir 3C (37F) Wettest: Shap 1.57 ins For 24hrs to 2pm Monday

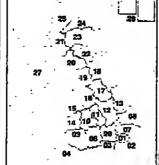
				-	
_	Aberdeen	1.9	0	7	45
	Anglesey	ď	0.04	ġ	48
4T	Aviernore	2.2	0.19	- 5	41
.0	Belfast	0	0.14	6	43
8.	Birmingham	05	0 01	7	45
.7	Bournemouth		0.16	10 10	50
8	Bristol	8.0	0.04	10	50
.8	Buxton	0.1	0.11	6	43
- 1	Cardiff	0.7	0.14	9	48
.1	Clacton	20	0.04	7	45
5	Crosser	20	0.01	7	45
.9	Ediaburgh	2.3	99.0	. 7	45
.5	Exmouth	0.2	0.04	10	50
.4	Fishguard	- 0	0.04	.9	48
9	Folkestone	2.7	0 07	13	52
.2	Glasgow	1.2	0.04	.7	45
8.	Hastings	6.0	0.05	11	52 48
.9	isie-of-man	0.9	0.02	9	48
.6	trie-of-wight	٠	0.04	11	52
.1	Jersey	ō	0.10	iò	50
9	Kendal	ŏ	0.19	ĕ	46
9	Leeds	1.0	0.01	9	48
2	Lerwick	o	0.31	6	43
- 1	Littlehampton	2.5	0.03	11	52
1	London	1.3	0.04	10	50
- 1	Lowestoft	0.5	0.06	ē	46
- 1	Manchester	0.3	0.03	7	45
- 1	Margate	24	0.01	11	52
- 1	Morecambe	0	0.17	8	46
- 1	Newcastle	0.8	0	ğ	48
- 1	Newquay	0.3	0.08	11	52
ı	Norwich	0.5	0.06	3	46
- 1	Oxford	0.2	0.04	9	48
1	Ross-on-wye	0	0.02		48
- 1	Salcombe	-	•	-	-
ſ	Scarborough	0	0.01	6	43
3	Shrewsbury	0	0.03	8	46
—i	Southend	-		9	-
ı	Southport		0.02	9	48
- 1	Stornoway	3.5	0.29	6	43
ı	Swanage	1.9	0.24	10	50
E ł	Tenby	0.2	0.07	10	ŞO
ŧ١	Torquay	0.5	0.08	12	Š4
1 1	Wineton C. Harry		_	_	

SUN & MOON

Sun rises: 07.49 Sun sets: 16.37 Moon rises: 11.40 Moon sets: 01.00 Pull Moon: Jan 31: WEATHERLINE

AIR QUALITY
Today's readings

For the latest forecasts dial 0891 5009 followed by the two digits for your area Source: The Met. Office, Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT)



24 hours to 6pm (GMT) Sunday: Information by PA WeatherCentre RAIN OR SHINE..

0 0.19 10 50

BAD WEATHER caused \$90bn (£6.25bn)of damage last year, according to US researchers, who pinned the hlame on el Nino, the warming of the Pacific Ocean, and its cousin, la Niña, the sudden cooling pattern which follows.

Munich Re, the world's largest reinsurer, said natural disasters caused 50,000 deaths and damage costing more than \$90bn in 1998, compared with 13,000 deaths and damage of \$30hn in 1997.

EUROPE NOON TODAY THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY 984

THE WORLD

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

'Bullied' rail staff ballot on strike

HUNDREDS OF white-collar BY ALAN JONES workers at a privatised rail company are to vote on a oneday strike in protest at the company's alleged "culture of hullying", it was announced

If the ticket-office staff, clerical and technical workers at Connex walk out it will be their union's first day of action since the 1926 general strike. The Transport Salaried Staffs Association warned it

will ballot 800 workers from 1 Fehruary unless Connex agrees to an independent study into allegations of hullying. A recent union survey of

staff at Connex, the Frenchowned operator of commuter

services across south-east England, showed high levels of stress, overwork and unhappiness. "We have been trying for months to make Connex understand the effects that poor senior management and constant bullying are having on staff morale and service levels," said Jon Allen, assistant general secretary of the TSSA.

"This isn't an old-fashioned dispute about pay hut a cry for help from staff who can't stand heing treated like this any

A Connex spokesman denied there was any hullying in the



0800 414 525 quoting reference ID1920

Our lines are open 8.30am to 7pm weekdays,

and 9am to 1pm Saturdays.

ion on other Saga products and services and may pass on your details to



حكاس الدعل

of share

England surk

be no more dub but ther crease in the

> HARC 125 set chairma throats. UP COL Cally gain a working Banger, Ce Group ch Biank a wie banker Tothevi case the po derining be of the Mar

two predato Mr Montgo umpediment rer Group to per publishe Air Monte short of ener was once des who could los ture of a root Within the known as son

dependent.

who prospere tion of brains. Then heressa But his bu has not saved ! Montgomery's eariy vesterda Mirror Group! nolder the gran manager Philli

emmistrate that the price

PRESS PLAYERS

FASHION

BLACKER

AM SMEDI

HAT SHOTON HE HIGH STREET

PLUS THEATRE

NOWEEK MONEY FINANCE

Tabloid hard man sees his dreams die in the Mirror

ONE OF the most spectacular boardroom bust ups of recent years will climax today with the expected ousting of David Montgomery from the job of chief executive of Mirror Group.

Officially, Mr Montgomery is preparing his departure beause he has lost the confidence of shareholders and non-executive directors. But behind that rather dry explanation lies a tale of intrigue, secret meetings

and boardroom plotting.

It is a corporate battle which has set chief executive and chairman at one another's throats. It has also produced a classic clash of style and culture.

In one corner the dour, socially gauche Mr Montgomery, a working class loyalist from Bangor, Co Down, In the other, the wily and urbane Mirror Group chairman, Sir Victor Blank, a well-known investment

To the victor, the spoils, is the convention in war. But in this ase the postscript will almost ertainly be the disappearance nf the Mirror Group as an independent company, At least two predators are circling. With Mr Montgomery gone, Sir Victor will have removed the last impediment to the sale of Mirror Group to another newspaper publisher.

Mr. Montgomery, a man not sbort of enemies in the media, was once described as someone who could lower the temperature of a room simply by en-

Within the industry he is known as something of an outsider, a cold, calculating figure with little time for social niceties who prospered by a combination of brains, hard work and, when necessary, ingratiation.

But his husiness acumen has not saved him this time. Mr Montgomery's fate was sealed early yesterday when he met Mirror Group's biggest shareholder, the giant pension fund

BY MICHAEL HARRISON AND STEVE BOGGAN

by Tony Dye. The Mirror boss was told that he had two choices: either to go voluntarily with his dignity intact or to be forced out ignominiously by a vote of the board or at a special share-

Last night, Mr Montgomery was still clinging to power and claiming the support of his fellow executives and at least one non-executive. But barring a miracle of Biblical proportions, his departure will be confirmed after a board meeting today.

Mr Montgomery has no shortage of detractors in national newspaper journalism ready to share a cruel story about "Monty", David Banks, a former editor of The Mirror, used to call him the Cabin Boy because of the way he "sucked up" to people.

Aside from Robert Maxwell, he is arguably the most unpopular newspaperman ever to walk Fleet Street, His talent was for cutting costs, a speciality that made him a hate figure among those whose jobs he eliminated and those whose journalism he undermined.

Yet in the eyes of the City, Mr Montgomery is reckoned to have done a reasonable job and in the early days of his stewardship he had what passes for a fan club in the Souare steady progress, with one or two exceptions such as its foray into Live TV.

When he took over the share price was languishing at less than 60p. It is now above 200p and after a long period of stagnation the flagship title, The Mirror, is now clawing back ground in the circulation battle among the red tops.

But ultimately, cost-cutting can only take a business snfar. manager Phillips & Drew, run For an encore, Mirror Group's



cided they want someone who can take the business forward and earn them a better return either by selling out or merging with a rival publisher.

Mr Montgomery, apparently, is not that man. He does not feature in the future plans of either of the two bidders who Mile. Since rescuing Mirror have so far declared their Group from the ruins of the hands-the regional newspaper Maxwell era he has been group Trinity and Regional Iodependent Media, which is chaired by the former Conservative party chairman, Sir Norman Fowler, and publishes the Yorkshire Post among its titles.

After a cat-and-mouse game lasting six months, Sir Victor has concluded that Mr Montgnmery has never been interested in any deal that would undermine his own power base. As one adviser to the Mirror chairman put it: "The fact is Montgomery would be an im-

nig City shareholders have de- pediment to any deal ... because he has decided that saving his own skin is more important than serving the interests of shareholders."

As an ex-editor of both the News of the World and Today. Mr Montgomery has not been afraid of taking the Fleet Street battle to his enemies. The Montgomery camp has had three spin doctors working for it including David Burnside, a former head of PR at British Airways at the height of the dirty tricks saga

Lo and behold, last weekend's press was full of anti-Blank stories accusing him of making secret contact with potential bidders without the knowledge of the rest of the board and meeting Mirror shareholders without the company's advisers being present something which breaches corporate governance principles.

Mr Montgomery will be wellrewarded on his departure. He is on a two year contract and earns more than £500,000 a year. In addition he has 400,000 share options left having al-

ing in other options. Nor does his career path suggest that the media world has heard the last of David Montgomery.

ready made £650,000 from cash-

Born in 1948 into a lovalist Presbyterian family, his first Queens University where he edited the student newspaper. involved writing disapproving stories of wasteful students spending their grants on booze.

After graduating, he moved Manchester on the Daily Mirror's training scheme where he was remembered as a hard-working journalist who showed more of an interest in

production than writing - an the environment. Montgomery early sign of his determination the "Green Greedy People". to be an editor.

According to Chris Horrie, author of L?ve TV, an account of Montgomery's downmarket foray into cable television, Derek Jameson, the head of the Manchester office, remembers repeatedly telling him to "piss off" after being pestered for extra work every night.

one vote.

lowest point, appointing the for

zie to churn out programmes

featuring topless darts, the news

bunny and a Norwegian weath-

mourned by journalists at The

Mirror. They, after all, were the

ones who nicknamed him

"Rommel" - because at least

City seeks auction, page 13

Outlook, page 15

His passing is not likely to be

er forecaster in a bikini.

Monty was nn our side.

In 1980, Montgomery moved to London and later joined Nick foray into journalism came at Lloyd at The Sun. Lloyd was to become editor of the News of the World with Montgomery The Gown, an editorship that as his deputy but within three

years Montgomery took over. In 1987, Rupert Murdoch bought Today and installed Montgomery as editor. He was quick to identify a new market - aspirational wannabe yuppies who wore power suits, dreamed of driving Porsches but who claimed to have an interest in

Charterhouse

merger partner, Cnncluded that was impossible with a chief executive mare interested in "saving his nwn skin than representing sharehnider interests"

Sir Victor Blank, City deal

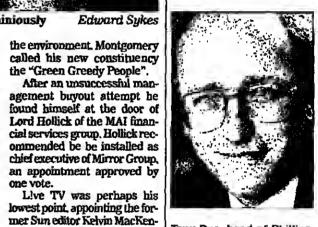
Brought in as Mirror Group chairman to find a buyer or

maker and former chairman of investment bank



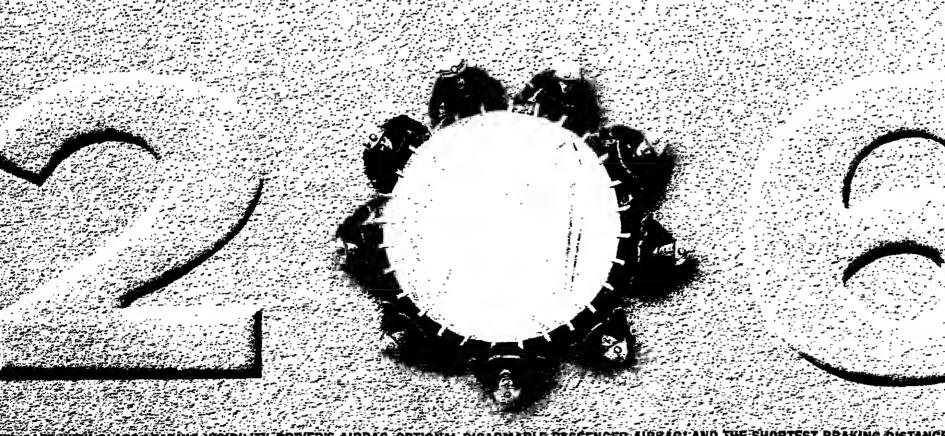
Sir Norman Fowler, former Conservative cabinet minister and chairman nf Reginnal Independent Media

Made 200p-a-share bid for Mirror Group. Questians about his contacts with the Mirror chairman Sir Victor Blank and whether he would be suitable to run a Labour-supporting paper.



Inny Dye, head of Phillips & Drew, Mirror Group's largest shareholder. Threatened to call an extra-

ardinary meeting of shareholders to oust Mr Montgamery if he did nat agree to go voluntarily. He backs an all-share offer for Mirror from the regional newspaper group Trinity.



FEEL SAFE WITH DIASS LEADING VISIBILITY BRIVER'S AIRBAG, OPTIONAL DISARMABLE PASSENGER AIRBAG; AND THE SHORTEST BRAKING DISTANCE IN ITS CLASS.



FROM E8495 FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 0345 208 208

desperate run is as unci as it was then, and th going is all Nicholls coast Often you have a reason in the preparation of #2 wards, but we've se and solutely nothing. his vesterday. They call was ground at Kempton the sign it was the year befor ... there was no contract son

erer im ADMISSION

1.40 STONESBY NC 53.000 added 2

William einemann mit

time \$2.00 to the "ondedo that Februa Rosse Cover Had about feel stock at 2000.00

Remember Start Proviseing had March the mode of the convict to soft less modes.

bundering and crisesting Share Kell bundering and crisesting Share Kell party and sesen as a change of the 2.10 BROOK MAIDE 2m 7f 110yds Pe

SVER SLESSED (76) (BF SVER SLESSED (76) (BF HERBAL WISE (18) T. J. F HERBAL WISE (18) T. J. F KINGS BANKER (288) (C PURE ARI (24) 245 C. Ho PURE ARI (24) 245 C. Ho PURE ARI (24) 255 C. Ho RASHSKIN (25) (D) 1982 (E HER HONEST POACHER TOGER PAWS (283) (D) 15

the organisation". ment under a Labour flag."

the Labour Party back to its principles" and warns: "If this proves impossible, other cours-

There is debate, too, about

While most primary schools encourage parents to help with are anxious to promote inde-pendent study. One secondary school asked a feeder primary school to tell parents of 10 and 11-year-olds not to help their

Some teachers argued that it was unfair for schools to set homework which requires parental help or advice because many pupils may receive no help at home.

Ofsted queries value of homework

THERE IS NO hard evidence By JUDITH JUDD that homework raises educational standards, according to a new study.

A report published yesterday by the Office for Standards in Education says that schools need to focus on the quality rather than the quantity of the homework that they set.

Ministers have for the first time set national guidelines on the amount of homework pupils should do, rising from 20 minutes a day for five-year-olds to two-and-a-half hours a day for 16-year-olds. And parents and

Education Editor

teachers are convinced of homework's value, says the study, which draws on a review of research carried out over the

But the report Homework: Learning from Practice points out that: "It is very difficult to identify a clear homework effect separate from the influence of

... factors such as home and family background which are themselves commonly associated with achievement."

Later, it adds: "Frequency of homework or amount of time spent are relatively crude measures and do not address the issue of quality."

Research does not tell us. says the report, what sort of homework is most effective but a clear link with schoolwork, a strong partnership with parents and proper setting and marking of work may all play a part.

Findings from the most recent international study, the Third International Maths and Science Survey, suggest that those children who do moder- or very little studying at home. countries but the difference is been taken for granted - for

WORKING BRIEF

The new face of homework, one junior school's definition: weekly learning of tables:

weekly learning of spelling; reading to a family member;

family visits to museum, farm etc;

completing "topic" assignments at weekends or in holi-

activities such as sport, clubs, Cubs, dancing or choir; musical instrument practice: extra-curricular activities at school

ate amounts of homework tend to do a little better than those

English primary school children spend less time on homewho spent either a lot of time work than their peers in other ents. "Perhaps too much has

according to the survey, which was carried out by the National Foundation for Educational Research. The Ofsted report, by Penelope Weston, who was years. It is no longer the series formerly a researcher at the foundation, involved a telephone survey of 227 primary and 141 secondary schools as well as 29 case studies.

Mrs Weston says that schools need to decide on a clear definition of homework and communicate it to par-

much less for secondary pupils, example that all those involved share a common understanding of what homework is." Homework, she points out,

has changed over the past 30 of clearly defined exercises from text books that most parents remember.

Instead, it may include research, interviews, observing, tape-recording or wordprocessing. One primary school suggested that "homework could be any activity which will encourage the social skills of sharing and co-operation".

the role of parents.

homework, secondary schools children with homework.

Nurses seek £750 for new year shifts

NURSES AND other National Health Service staff demanded a bonus of £500 yesterday for working on Millennium Eve and £250 for working the morning after. Some nurses with scarce specialisms have threatened to resign from the NHS next December and go to work for agencies who will be charging hospitals £600 for

Union leaders warned the NHS Executive it could be difficult or impossible to persuade employees to turn up during the celebrations unless there is a substantial one-off payment. Leaders of the million NHS staff calculate that their claim for a bonus would cost the service an extra £150m.

Paul Marks, deputy head of would reply in due course. health at public service union Unison, told management that some of his members might insist on "freelancing" elsewhere worth their while. "Everyone nium and everyone wants the NHS to run smoothly over the holiday. It is only fair that the people who have to give up their own celebrations should re-

ceive some reward," he said. Employees' leaders said Mr Dobson reacted swiftly to some upmarket restaurants in have the decision reversed.

UXI ODI Uxb 3.5! Ipn

WA ABC stov 4pm Bla-2pm

COI Elti 5.4 6.1

Witi OD Wir En: 5.2 4.1 Biz Pra 6.1 8.3 1.4

BY BARRIE CLEMENT

London were paying waiters £1,000 for working on New Year's Eve and health workers might decide to boost their meagre earnings. Mr Marks said staff with specific skills, such as those in catering, might want to take advantage of big bonuses elsewhere and others, such as porters, could find work as security guards.

A circular from the NHS has advised trusts to pay normal rates on 31 December and it hinted that anyone not turning in for work should be disciplined. A spokeswoman for the NHS

confirmed that management had received the claim and A university that planned to charge student nurses - who receive an annual bursary of

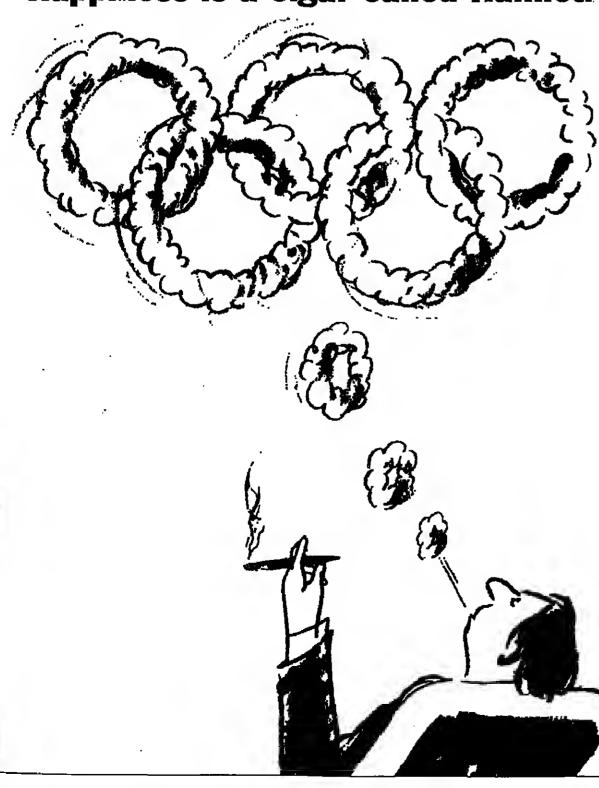
£5,300 - for their uniforms was unless the NHS can make it forced into a climbdown yesterday by Frank Dobson, the wants to celebrate the millen- Secretary of State for Health. Kingston University in Surrey had planned to introduce a charge of £100 for the traditional uniform for students starting

training next month. But when

the details emerged yesterday.

the school's 200th anniversary at its site John Voos Kimberley Halls, 15, of New Hall School, Chelmsford, dressed as a 19th-century pupil as

Happiness is a cigar called Hamlet.



SMOKING CAUSES CANCER Chief Medical Officers' Warning

Labour tries to stamp out anti-Blair network

LABOUR PARTY leaders will By ANDREW GRICE launch a crackdown today against a rebel grassroots movement set up to oppose government policies and Tony Blair's "control freakery" in the running of the party.

The National Executive Committee will outlaw a group of activists in Leeds in the hope of preventing the growth of a nationwide network of anti-Blair dissidents.

The NEC will declare that the Leeds branch of the Independent Labour Network is ineligible for affiliation to the Labour Party" - the same method used by Neil Kinnock to ban the Trotskyist Militant Tendency in the mid-Eighties. However, the NEC will be told there is growing criticism of the party leadership among the

party's grass roots. Six constituency parties **Political Editor**

with the Liberal Democrats. lighten up a bit".

pointed at the level of centralised control which the Labour leadership appears to be exercising over the party".

repared to allow."

have tabled motions to today's meeting, expressing their hostility to Mr Blair's leadership. Some oppose his move to pre-Mayor of London and his attempts to forge closer links

The Islington South and Finsbury party of Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for Culture. has pleaded with Mr Blair to Its motion says it is "disap-

Mr Smith's local party adds:

to avoid damaging press stories of splits, we believe there should be more room for constructive dissent than the leadership currently seems Labour members in the

The local party in Folke-

Cabinet for extending policy cooperation with the Liberal De-

"While we appreciate the need

Tiverton and Honiton constituency express their "growing alarm" at what they call "the manipulation of the democratic procedures" by party officials over the selection of Labour's candidates for the Mayor of London and the leader of the Welsh assembly.

mocrats without seeking the NEC's approval. However, the NEC will dismiss the grassroots backlash by acting firmly against the Leeds rebels. Four left-wingers in the city have already been expelled and two suspended, and today's

stone and Hythe criticises the

meeting will approve moves to expel another local activist Jane Young. In a confidential report to today's meeting, Labour officials say the Independent Lahour Network is operating contrary to the aims and values of the party", has its own finances and is seeking to attract membership.

The report says "it is a cause of considerable concern" that Ms Young is an integral part of the leadership of the independent network. It accuses her of supporting attacks on Fabian Hamilton, the Labour MP for Leeds North East, who was selected to fight the last general election after the Labour leadership vetoed Liz Davies, a former Islington councillor, because of her hard left views. To Mr Blair's embarrassment. Ms Davies was elected to the NEC last September and will be present for today's discussion.

The Leeds group was set up. last June, one of the first local hranches of a national Independent Labour Network planned by Ken Coates and Hugh Kerr, two members of the European Parliament, who were expelled from the Labour Party a year ago after they decided to join the Green Party.

The Leeds group claims a significant number of Labour members believe Mr Blair is doing to the country what he has done to the party essentially, this is to destroy all of the democratic structures in

Its campaign material says: "New Labour is no more than an alternative Tory govern-

The group wants to "force es of action may have to be

MP in court over poll fraud

MOHAMMED SARWAR, the BY STEPHEN GOODWIN Labour MP for Glasgow Govan, appeared before the High Court in Edinburgh yesterday to face chief whip and now Minister of accusations of electoral fraud. attempting to pervert the course of justice and a false declaration of election expenses.

The criminal charges are the most serious levelled against a sitting MP for more than two decades. The trial is expected to last at least eight weeks and could prove an awkward distraction for the Labour Party as it tries to focus attention on its campaign for the Scottish parliamentary elections.

The provisional list of witnesses for the prosecution infirst Muslim MP when he was cludes Nick Brown, the former elected for Govan in May 1997

Scotland Correspondent

Agriculture, senior officials of the Scottish Labour Party, several journalists and a large number of people from the Pollokshields area of Glasgow, the heart of Mr Sarwar's con-

Mr Sarwar, 46, and his coaccused on one charge, Mumtaz Hussain, appeared in court for about 20 minutes before Lady Cosgrove, Scotland's only woman High Court judge, 8djourned the trial until today. Mr Sarwar became Britain's

Sarwar: Trial is expected to

after a hard-fought contest with the Scottish National Party Born in Pakistan, he came to Britain in 1976 and, from sell-

ing clothes in markets, built up a multi-million pound cashand-carry business before entering politics.

Mr Sarwar has always protested his innocence of the allegations, which all relate to the 1997 general election period in Govan. He is accused of having formed a fraudulent scheme to get the names of four people and their qualifying addresses on to the electoral regieter and also of knowingly making an incomplete declaration of his election expenses.

A member of the Labour. Party since 1984, Mr Sarwar be came a Glasgow councilior and also served on Labour's Scottish executive.

Nicholis's horses enjoying a midwir The had news, as an a treble at Kempto day is that the batt been recharged. an pow ready to puck they left of But there is one exception. Nicholis W ing that See More Bu: best chase. In his your duce anything but performance of his k when he mans in ! Chase at Cheltent

1.40 Fortria Poste Dan ... 2.10 King's Sanker 2.40 Smarty

car gratter antalanter. From ide. BLEADING TRAMERS: MI PIC deson CO 100 Mrs J PM BLEADING JOCKEYS & PARC

BETTING 11-10 Forma Specie Claims, 7

Former of the Property of the State of the S

VERDICT: 1 or 2 or 1 or 1 between the only conclusion and Jamesa Will pleaning only lander in her last T outing the pleaning only lander in her last T outing the last T outin

For Blessed: Tyce to well over the come of 3 to No Recreat or now to on heavy. The one to beat on what wheel wheel Para cut in an Inship and Bards Para cut in an Inship and Bards Para cange enough: "Para sent penny of jumping enough: The high Barker: Placed in three no mandown to be sent the sandown time before but fee? 2.

Sandown time before but fee? 2. a sandown time before but less 4.

Pure Air: Sent off at between 40.

Rashektin: Won manden point in the chain with beaten at Cheftenham hard riche in hot contest won by M

FONT 1.50 Pagasonic 2.20 Lit

3.20 Ariequin De Chancer 4.20 Stormhill (9 (accompanied un price) CAR PARK: P

AMERICAN PARTY PAR 50 FAREHAM HURI added 4YO 2m 2

THE INDEPENDENT Tuesday 26 Junuary 1999 Cities may sue Over bids lost to bribes

THE EMBATTLED International Olympic Committee (IOC) faces the threat of legal action for compensation by cities which have lost out in the awarding of the games.

Facing the worst corruption scandal in the IOC's history and increasing calls for his resignation, Juan Antonio Samaranch, its president, vesterday promised widespread changes in the way the venues for the games will be chosen.

But Manchester and Stockholm, whose bids to stage the Olympics failed under questionable circumstances, yesterday demanded that they should be compensated. Similar claims are expected to come from Istanbul, Berlin and Winoipeg, all of which lost bids for summer or winter games.

Manchester, which lost out to Sydney as the venue for oext year's games, has asked its legal advisers to scrutinise the IOC report and is arranging talks with other cities that lost in their bids. Sydney's successful bid is now at the centre of the latest bribery allegation.

Richard Leese, Manchester city council leader, said vesterBY KIM SENGUPTA AND NATALIE CURRY

IOC should consider compen-sating Manchester and other bid

Chris Smith, the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, also proposed financial compensation for Manchester, adding: "We need to know when Sydney hosts the Olympics next year whether the city or the organisers are going to make a

a profit, that question [compensation) does seriously arise." Officials in Stockholm also said they would be seeking a refund for the costs of around £15m for its failed 2004 bid for the games, which went to Athens.

Deputy mayor, Margareta Olofssoo, said: "I hope other cities will do the same. Maybe we can get back the costs of participating. It's so obvious that the cities did not compete on equal terms. Votes have been bought through corruption and cities that did oot use these methods have not had a chance."

However, authorities in Peking, which lost by a thin margin to Sydney in its bid to host day: "If the selection competition the 2000 Olympics, were last is unfair and corrupt then the night still deciding how best to

respood. Even if Sydney is stripped of the games, Peking is not believed to be ready to step in. The Chinese government has also announced its intention to bid for the 2008 summer Games and is said to be apprehensive about alieoating po-

tential support. Meanwhile, allegations of corruption surrounding the games continued yesterday with fresh allegations that the award of last year's winter games to Nagano. profit. If they are going to make in Japan, was accompanied by IOC members being entertained in geisha parties, and receiving expensive gifts and first-class flights for their families.

It was also claimed that one IOC member was treated for surgery to remove bags under his eyes at the expense of Salt Lake City, which won the rights to the 2002 winter games.

Former minister John Gummer, who was involved in the Manchester bid, maintained the IOC encouraged a culture of corruption. "Travelling in the lap of luxury around the world, lauded wherever they went, these members of the IOC had the power to make individuals, cities and eveo nations rich."

Hamish McRae,



Strangers Greg Cordell and Carla Germaine marrying yesterday

Up to

£300,000 FREE

Accidental Death Cover Call now for more details

Strangers marry in a PR man's romance

WHAT WAS supposed to be a dream wedding had an inauspicious start. The bride, swathed in an ivory veil, glided through the swing doors into the hotel lobby. Then she sturnbled, almost making a horizontal eotrance to the ceremony. She whirled to snap 'get off of it, would you?" at the chunky security guard who kept treading on her train.

Carla Germaine, a 23-yearold part-time model, had oever set eyes oo Greg Cordell, 28. until 12.12pm yesterday. Less than 10 minutes later she was married to him.

The couple were the winoers - or, some might say, victims - of a "lonely hearts" competition organised by a radio station in Birmingham. They were selected from 200 eotrants to marry each other on a hlind date.

Today they are on their way to Bermuda oo a free honeymoon; when they return they will live - in a free apartment -with the disapprobation of the church, relationship counsellors, local MPs and some of their relatives, who have accused them of cheapening the institution of marriage. The three joint presidents

of Birmingham Churches Together, the Bishop of Birmingham (Church of England), the city's Roman Catholic archhishop and a represeotative from the Free Churches expressed "profound coocern". Their letter to the radio station, BRMB, read: "Marriage should be the celebratioo of one man and ooe woman's decision to commit themselves to each other for life. By contrast what you have arranged deliberately prevents the couple meeting and reduces a sacred and momentous decision to a media event."

A spokeswoman for Relate, Julia Cole, accused the radio station of cheapening marriage. She said: "This compe-

tition has devalued something that is very important to lots of people's lives.

Emerging from their civil service at Birmingham's Hyatt Hotel to speak to the media, the couple looked more confused than concerned. "I know what I like and this is very, very good," said Mrs Cordell, tap-

ping her husband's left hand. Everyooe expects us to split up, but we want to prove them all wroog," said Mr Cordeli. a salesman from Amington in Staffordshire.

Mrs Cordell, from Suttoo Coldfield. West Midlaods. looked like a dream wife or, at least, a publicist's idea of ooe. Mr Cordell. oo the other hand, just looked delighted. like the slightly awkward bloke oo television's Blind Dote who gets choseo over two "Chippeodale" types.

The ceremony had been due to be broadcast live but was delayed for 30 minutes after the registrar, David Williams, expressed distaste, saying he did oot want it "turned into a media circus", a spokesman for the radio station said. The couple exchanged gold wedding bands eograved with the station's logo before atteoding a wedding hreakfast with 22 family mempers and frieods.

The organisers emphasised to the media how a third of marriages break up and how religion and adherence to traditional ceremonies can cloud the issues behind marriage. They did not expand oo what these issues were, but presumably they include passing lie-detector tests and appealing to the tastes of the astrologer Russell Grant - as the wedding couple had to.

A similar stunt organised by an Australian radio station last year produced a marriage that lasted two months.

One BSE meal killed man

infected feed may have caused a teenager's death from 'new variant" Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (nv-CJD), an inquest was told yesterday.

The death of 19-year-old Stephen Churchill, Britain's first known teenager to die of nv-CJD, was most likely caused by his diet. Dr James Ironside, of the National CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh, told the Wiltshire coroner.

The disease reduced Mr Churchill from a healthy, active student to a tragic and confused wheelchair patient.

A SINGLE meal containing BSE- BY CHARLES ARTHUR **Technology Editor**

> The corooer, David Masters, recorded a verdict of misadventure - the same verdict as a number of other coroners who have investigated deaths from

Mr Churchill's mother, Dot, described how in 1994 he had a car crash in which he could not recollect how he came to be on the wrong side of the road. He became more confused, with-

drawn and quiet, she said. Previously he had enjoyed a

convenience foods, though he sometimes ate burgers and liked sausages.

The family has campaigned for almost four years for an in-quest into his death, which occurred in May 1995 hut was recorded as "natural causes". The inquest was ordered by the Home Secretary, Jack Straw.

Afterwards, Mr Churchill's father, David, said: "It is quite a terrifying thought that one single meal could create such a dreadful disease in one person.

"This has put into place the last piece of the jigsaw. We feel healthy appetite. hut avoided the verdict is appropriate."

LEGAL & GENERAL FAMILY PROTECTION PLAN

You'd give the world to help protect your children.

Your family is the most important thing in your life. But have you considered how they'd cope with your death? With the loss of income?

INSURANCE

Thankfully, Legal & General's Family Protection Plan offers a simple, affordable way to help secure the financial future of those you love most.

And the extra bills?

Equivalent w £6.08 a month

For just 20p° a day a non-smoking man aged 30 could get £53,200 of cover for 15 years (acceptance subject to individual details). You select the amount and length of cover you require (within certain limits) and the lump sum is paid should you die during that period. Additional options available include Terminal Illness Cover, Critical Illness Cover, Indexation and Waiver of Premium.

Call 0500 33 66 66 for your no-obligation quotation or send for an information pack. Your family is depending on it.

num premium of £5.00 per month equates to 17p a day. The Parally Protection Plan is provided by Legal & General As a wallable on request. Now and then, we may tell you about other products or services offered by the Legal & General Gro interest to you. If you would prefer not to receive this carefully selected information, please tick the box in the coupon details available on request. Now and then, we may tell you about other products or services offered by the Legal & General Group of o be of interest to you if you would prefer not to receive this carefully selected information, please tick the box in the coupon. For yo recorded and randomly manifored, Legal & General Direct Limited is a representative only of the Legal & General marketing group, m

Visit our Website at

www.LandG.com



D3/DJ04

Ref 03/DJ0 Please send me a personal quoration and information pack on the Legal & General Family Protection Plan. Post to: Legal & General, FREEPOST (SWC 0467), Cardiff CF1 1YW Cover required & Genera on other Legal & General products. 🗆

trust us to deliver



Richi 12.3 Little 9.30 3.50

ODE BR/6 4.10 of t Mas Mee 8.20 3.20

ROB ABC Mee Prac 8.2! 5.30

SID ABI tle Me STJ VIR 6.2 Sta Voi Me 8.1 4.1 Sle 9.1

ST AE Str Jo Pr 2.: Tr

The Sinn Fein MP Martin McGuinness, who stayed away from yesterday's meeting

representatives met the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland vesterday to discuss "punishment attacks", an issue taking an increasingly prominent place on the political

Dr Mo Mowlam met people from two loyalist groupings, the Progressive Unionist Party and the Ulster Democratic Party, and from Sinn Fein, which under the terms of the Good Friday Agreement are obliged to use their influence to bring paramilitary shootings and beatings to an end.

But the Sinn Fein president, Gerry Adams, and the party's chief negotiator, Martin McGuinness, said they had boycotted the meeting in Belfast because the Northern Ireland Office had "hyped it into something it was not." More junior Sinn Fein figures went in their

Dr Mowlam clearly challenged all the groupings on why such attacks were continuing, and on what they were doing to have them stopped. None of the parties involved appears to have accepted any responsibility for the attacks.

David Ervine, of the Proressive Unionists, indicated that Dr Mowlam had taken a

K6 Processor

HURRY!

LIMITED STOCKS

32Mb SDRAM, 3.2Gb Hard

MODEL: 1234. Was £1399.

lattery Pack MODEL: 1410.

PC WORLD PRICE

PC WORLD PRICE

1699

Disk, 12.1" HPA Colour Display, 24x CD-ROM, 512k L2 Cache,

Intel Pentium

Processor with

32Mb SDRAM, 3.2Gb Hard Disk,

12.1" TFT Colour Display, 20x CD-ROM,

333MHz AMD

K6 Processor

Windows98

64Mh SDRAM, 4.0Gh Hard

56k Modem, Windows 98, 2Mb Integrated Video Memory, MODEL: 1260.

Disk, 12.1" IFT Colour Display, 512k L2 Cache,

24x CD-ROM,

LOYALIST AND republican By DAVID MCKITTRICK Ireland Correspondent

> tough line at their meeting, describing her approach as "hard-hitting". He said, however, that the minister had not actually delivered any ultimatum to his party. He reiterated his party's opposition to such attacks, describing them as

"immoral and reprehensible". Gary McMichael, leader of the UDP said later: "It would be wrong for anyone to suggest that there isn't a degree of support for this. People do go to paramilitaries, particularly those who are direct victims. I argue that it is wrong hut that doesn't make it go away.

"We're working on the ground to encourage people to change their attitudes, to go to the police with their problems." "Punishment" beatings and

shootings by the IRA and loyalist paramilitary groups have continued in Belfast and elsewhere, the latest attacks taking place not long before yester-

day's meetings. In Rasharkin, Co Antrim an 18-year-old youth suffered head and face injuries when three masked men hurst into his house and beat him with clubs, in what is presumed to have been a loyalist attack. A second

man in the house escaped injury by jumping out of a firstfloor window. Earlier in what appeared to be another paramilitary-style shooting at Maghera, Co Londonderry, a

man was shot in the leg. According to the Royal Ulster Constabulary there have been 28 attacks so far this year, 14 each by loyalists and republicans. In 1996, the worst year for such attacks, loyalists and republicans were responsible for a combined total of 326 shootings and beatings.

According to figures collated by the Royal Ulster Constabulary, this dropped last year to 213. Attacks by the IRA, which in 1996 amounted to 175, last year dropped to a figure of 93. Thus the security forces are dealing not with a surge of assaults but with the continuation of an activity that has been an unwelcome but familiar feature of Belfast ghetto life since the early Seventies when, for example, the IRA would "tar and feather" girls said to have

fraternised with soldiers. The Government's quanan issue that has become bound up with the overall peace process. On one reading anyone linked to groups involved in such violence should be

unceremoniously ejected from the process. The Ulster Unionist leader, David Trimble, has signalled that if the IRA has not decommissioned weapons by March 10 he will formally seek to have Sinn Fein excluded from the new Northern Ireland

The counter-argument is that it will take some time for groupings that are, hopefully, making the journey from terrorism into democracy to shake off all their previous trappings of violence. The Tory leader, William Hague, reiterated his call for early prisoner releases to stop, saying the paramilitaries were in breach of the Good Friday Agreement, and ofTony Blair's promise that the agreement meant an end to violence. "We are now seeing beatings escalate, without any guns or hombs being decommissioned," Mr Haig said,

They [the Government] are actually throwing away their negotiating cards and we are getting nearer to a point when there will be no terrorists left in prison. Mo Mowlam should he telling them today that unless they start to give up their guns and bombs and put an end to terrorist mutilations, then prisoner releases will be put on

EC chief faces inquiry over property deal

THE FUTURE of European social affairs commissioner Padraig Flynn was in doubt last night as he came under intense pressure from the Irish Government to answer allegations that he received IR£50,000 (£46,000) from a property developer when he was Dublin's

environment minister. Ireland's deputy premier Mary Harney claimed his position was now "impossible" after what she called "devastating" claims by the Luton-based developer, Thomas Gilmartin, that Mr Flynn had repeatedly telephoned him since last September pleading with him to change his account of the 1989 payment. Ms Harney held discussions yesterday with the Taolseach Bertie Ahern about the affair. Mr Ahern said it "would be in the public interest" for Mr Flynn to make a public statement on what happened.

Fianna Fail sources confirmed to The Independent that the cash did not reach the party headquarters.

Opposition questions on the cash will dominate proceedings when the Dail resumes tomorrow. Last week the

BY ALAN MURDOCH

businessman reversed his decision not to testify before a Dublin judicial tribunal investigating planning corruption after Mr Flynn claimed that Mr Gilmartinwas sick. This allegation was quickly withdrawn by the Commissioner.

Mr Flynn has not admitted receiving the cheque, but has made only partial denials, saying: "I never asked or took money from anybody to do favours for anybody in my life." He later qualified this saying: "I never took took money from anybody to do political favours in so far as planning is concerned."

Mr Gilmartin says when he paid Mr Flynn: "I asked who I would make it payable to. He just said 'Don't, just leave it on the desk'."

Mr Flynn has succeeded in maximising European money, including agricultural payouts. for Ireland, but the controversy has undermined his chances of Dublin nominating him Commissioner for another term later this year on a IR£140,000

IN BRIEF

Ford plans Dagenham shutdown

FORD IS considering a three-week shutdown of its biggest UK factory and extending short-time working because of a drop in export demand, according to unofficial sources. The firm is expected to make an announcement later this week about production of the Fiesta at Dagenham, Essex, which has been on a four-day week since October

Connex Rail staff hold strike ballot

THE TRANSPORT Salaried Staff Association, a white-collar union, is to ballot ticket-office staff and head-office workers at Connex Rail over plans for a one-day strike. The union has accused Connex of threatening to sack staff or withhold pay rises if they refuse to sign new contracts.

Diver's fatal search for flipper

A BRITISH soldier diving on a wreck off Cyprus died while looking for a flipper. Police believe that during the dive on Sunday, John Rann, 38, from Keynsham, near Bristol, ran out of oxygen after trying to recover the flipper, which had come loose during his return to the surface.

Oxford students end fees protest

THE OXFORD undergraduates who refused to pay university tuition fees said yesterday they would end their protest to avoid being expelled. But in a letter to The protest to avoid being expenses. Due in a retier to the independent, the five students, who have been withholding up to £1,000, said they had just started their campaign.

Soya 'can cut HRT cancer risk'

SOYA MAY protect against the cancer risk linked with hormone replacement therapy. US research has shown its protective effect on post-menopausal monkeys.

TERENCE BLACKER



The rise of the Judas biography was somehow inevitable

Stephen Davison SONY 266MHz Intel® Pentium® 24-SPEED Processor with MMX™ CD-ROM Technology DRIVE • 32Mb SDRAM. 3.2Gb Hard Disk. • 12.1" HPA Colour Display. 512k Cache Memory. 12.1" FULL 24x CD-ROM. COLOUR LCD Sony Imaging Software. Windows 98. SCREEN MODEL: PCG-745LT. NEW

EXCLUSIVE*

PC WORLD PRICE

or 29.51 per month

233MHz Intel® Pentium® **Processor with** MMX™ Technology • 32Mb SDRAM. ● 2.1Gb Hard Disk

THE STATE OF THE S

(Detachable). • 12.1" TFT Colour Display. ● 24x CD-ROM.

 Windows 98. ■ 3D Graphics Accelerator. • 4Mb Video SG RAM. MODEL: MD100.

We won't

be beaten

on price*

PC WORLD PRICE

12.1" TFT COLOUR DISPLAY DETACHABLE **HARD DISK** 24-SPEED CD-ROM DRIVE

BRITAIN'S BIGGEST COMPUTER

IS ON AT ALL STORES **FOR YOUR NEAREST** STORE CALL

THE COMPUTER SUPERSTORE all PCs and printers over £250. Credit Protection (nsurance (CPf) is optional and will protect your payments in case of accident, host CPf) Cash Price £699. No Deposit and 48 monthly payments of £20,66 – total amount payable £991,68. Minimum purchase £ intel Inside logo, Pentium, Celeron and MMA: are Registered Trademarks of the Intel Corporation. "Exclusive to DSC Retail Ltd.

المكناس الدمل

remarks of the Redwood, wi teenage single put their babies She admitte ities were quic

YOUNG MOTH encouraged to

adoption, the l

said yesterday

women ended

cause well-n

very profession

ers mis u leet

look after thei

3.500 babies u

own in came.

gested social w

unrealistic abo

of being succe

to their parent

tion should be

pasitive respo

mothers who c

on families of

Family Policy

his Straw said

that the only o

were oider y

were difficult t

many suitable

been on waitin

long while ch

mained in car

Secretary said

would be put u

the system w friendly" and th

ment needed opportunities fo

ples to adopt. situation is not

But Felicity

of the British Adoption and

Mr Straw's Co

"provocative st

He added th

"it is still a

Speaking h

ineir vourieste

There are

Chir cru

THE CIRCUS Chipperfield w insensitive, on ruled her farm iai authority" Under cross Andover mag vesterday. M who is accused elty charges. Charies Gabb. cution: "That" Vourself - mas imals in your wili do as you be beaten ... Y pence about 1 pain. Disciplia god that you w

right you think inge over notion "A bit along th

HE INDEPENDENT,

ands tings

ent meant an ending

- C+1 Mr Haug saw

and Re

the them today the

comes and putates

be pring

7 - 17 442 68 6

Neigh.

iu interalan-

- - - . c. Taus 28

. The insque twik

Sec. 2002. $z \sim 1.00 \ \mathrm{keV}$

2.75/2

ು . ಬರಚಿತವ್ಯ

17.44

13.48.5

.....

1. 工作 化二二二烷酸

....- _ 15,53,50

m shutdown

والمنطقة والمناجرة والمراجرة

The state of the s

.....

IIIPP

fees protest

incer risk

for flipper

d strike ballot

1. 2.5光粒



This month there will be two full moons, the second being 'blue', with another due in March

1999 to wax and wane twice in a blue moon

FORGET THE eclipse. This BY CHARLES ARTHUR year will see one of the truly rare astronomical events: a double helping of blue moons.

Though most people use the phrase to mean "very rarely", astronomers have a simpler way of identifying a blue moon: it happens when there are two full moons in a single month.

January 1999 fits the bill its first full moon was on 2 January, and the second will be next Sunday, just squeezing in before the end of the month.

More remarkably, we will have to wait only until March for the next blue moon to arrive. "It's very unusual for this to happen," explained Simon Mitton of the Royal Astronomical Society. "It can only occur when one of the two blue moons is in January." Such a double helping will not happen again until 2018

The reason is that the Ulli Michel moon's own month is 29.5 days

Technology Editor

long. Usually, that only allows for a single full moon in each calendar month. But if there is a blue moon on the last day in January, then February being only 28 days long most years - will miss out. That in turn means that March will also have two full moons.

But the most perplexing thing about a "blue moon" is where the expression comesfrom. There are many competing possibilities. The "two moons in a month" explanation became accepted because the board game Trivial Pursuit began using it in 1986, according to Philip Hiscock, a folklore specialist hired by Sky & Telescope magazine to investigate. Trivial Pursuit got it from a 1985 children's almanac; but the almanac's authors couldn't

recall where they got it.

gins turned up by Mr Hiscock are the 16th-century phrase "he would argue that the moon is blue" - to mean arguing that black is white. Yet another is that it is a corruption of the French "la double lune". Or a derivation from songs addressed by the lovelorn (blue) to the moon. Or even the Blue Moon cocktail, made of cura-

cao, gin and a twist of lemon. A rival explanation is that very occasionally, volcanic eruptions or strange weather threw dust into the atmosphere - making the moon look-

There is a stronger case. however, for the little-known Maine Farmers' Almanac, the source of two possible derivations. One is that when there were two full moons in a calendar month, the Almanac printed the first in red, and the second in blue.

The more baroque explanation is that in the past the various full moons of the year were named according to the order in which they occurred - provided there was only one per month. The names were Moon after Yule, Wolf Moon, Lenten Moon, Egg Moon, Milk Moon, Flower Moon, Hay Moon, Grain Moon, Fruit Moon, Harvest Moon, Hunters' Moon and Moon Before Yule.

The trouble was that about once every three years, there would be a 13th moon - the Blue Moon - wbich would upset schedules for church services and celebrations.

· For astronomers, though, blue moons are non-events. "It's a completely artificial phenomenon, caused by our months being split into 30, 31 and 28 days," said Dr Mitton. In fact, they occur only with the Gregorian calendar, the Islamic and Hebrew calendars, which run on alternating months of 30 and 29 days, rule

Mothers To De me urged to over deal babies

YOUNG MOTHERS who cannot BY LOUISE JURY cope with their babies should be encouraged to give them up for adoption, the Home Secretary

said yesterday. Jack Straw said some young women ended up in crisis because "well-meaning but not very professional" social workers misjudged their ability to

n care. Mr Straw gested social workers are being unrealistic about their chances of being successfully returned to their parents. He said adoption should be presented as a "positive, responsible choice" to mothers who could not care for their youngsters.

Speaking at a conference on families organised by the Family Policy Studies Centre, Mr Straw said it was a myth that the only children in care were older youngsters who were difficult to place.

"It is still a sad fact that many suitable couples have been on waiting lists far too long, while children have remained in care," the Home Secretary said.

He added that more babies would be put up for adoption if the system was more "userfriendly" and that the Government needed to improve the opportunities for childless couples to adopt. "The current situation is not satisfactory," he

But Felicity Collier, director of the British Agencies for Adoption and Fostering said Mr Straw'a comments were "provocative stuff" akin to the remarks of the Tory MP John Redwood, who once said teenage single mothers should put their babies up for adoption.

She admitted some authorities were quicker than others 25,000 adoptions.

AND IAN BURRELL

at placing children and that it took an average of 13 months for a baby given up at birth to be adopted. "We do want to do everything we can to reduce the

But the lesson of the 1950s, look after their children. ... 1960s and 1970s was that adop-There are currently some tion could cause considerable 3.500 babies under the age of distress to mothers if proper

> "It seemed to society that it was best for the babies (of single mothers to be brought up in a nuclear family but there has been a buge legacy of guilt and loss," Mrs Collier said. Up to 30 per cent of the mothers who relinguished their babies had suffered mental health problems.

"We believe that, although adoption is a happy outcome for most children, where it is pos-sible for the children to be brought up by their birth parent, that is the best option."

The best way to improve the situation would be to change the law, but the Government had failed to respond to pleas, Mrs Collier said.

Adoption agencies want the rules changed so the child's best interest is paramount. In cases where adoption is clearly for the best, that would give greater authority to courts to overrule a parent who objected.

Terry Dadswell, of the British Association of Social Workers, said there was a balance to be achieved. "It is a sensitive area and, by and large, social workers who deal with fostering and adoption are specialists in it," he said.

In 1996, the most recent figure, nearly 6,000 children were adopted, including 253 babies under one, whereas in the peak year of 1968 there were nearly

SAAB Accounting beyond the for taste

Saab 9-5 - £375-per month* The Saab 9-S is the car for the motorist with discerning taste. A vehicle that delivers exceptional performance and superb mid-range acceleration, balanced with a safety system that gives you the confidence to use it!

The luxurious driver's environment has a host of standard features including automatic climate control and the sleek body and distinctive rear wedge are the epitome of good taste.

Control and safety, however, aren't limited to the car. Business users can drive a Saab 9-5 Saloon from as little as £375 per month with Saab Contract Hire. A contract which offers precise financial control and peace of mind. The Saab 9-5. The car that proves it is possible to account for taste.



Chipperfield was 'cruel woman'

Chipperfield was branded an insensitive, cruel woman" who ruled her farm with "dictatorial authority". Under cross-examination at

Andover magistrates' court yesterday, Ms Chipperfield, who is accused of animal cruelty charges, was told by Charles Gabb, for the prosecution: "That's how you see yourself - master of all the animals in your kingdom. They will do as you say or they will be beaten ... You don't care tuppence about the infliction of pain. Discipline - that's the

god that you worship." Mr Gabb asked her: "Is itright you think this is a lot of fuss over nothing?" She replied: "A hit along those lines, yes."

THE CIRCUS trainer Mary BY LINUS GREGORIADIS

Ms Chipperfield, 61, was questioned after she had told the court she hit a baby chimpanzee with a riding crop because it tried to bite her Giving evidence for the first time, she said she had to hit the 18month-old animal, Trudy, because it refused to go to bed and "was playing to an audience" Ms Chipperfield said the animal had previously turned on her and bitten her left nipple.

Ms Chipperfield denies 21 charges of cruelty relating to the care of animals at her winter training quarters near Andover, Hampshire. Her husband, Roger Cawley, denies seven charges.

The trial continues today.

For further details of your nearest Saab dealer, see Yellow Pages or call free on 0800 626556 (Mon-Fri 9.00-5.00). Alternatively, visit our website at www.saab.co.uk

ways," said Gerald Howarth indignantly, intervening during the Home Secretary's speech on the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Bill.

Well you can, of course. Indeed, you can have it in a whole rait of ways that have probably never even hind their fixed conviction that been screened in Mr Howarth's mental cinema - an over-heated while not precisely synonymous, are local fleapit that is largely given over as close as makes no difference? to low-budget horror movies.

Showing yesterday, as MPs consent for male homosexuals, was that Tory cult hit Predatory Older Men - a lurid shocker in which a sinister army of buggers

kering of a liberal government.

One does wonder what happened to some of these members in their tender years. What scout hut atrocities or dormitory fumblings lie be-"homosexual" and "paedophile",

It wasn't all Mr Howarth's fault, it's true, though it grieves me to conagain discussed lowering the age of fess it. The fact that the Government have yoked together two entirely dislong-standing inequity and the ex-

"YOU SIMPLY cannot have it both emerges from its hiding places, re-ways," said Gerald Howarth indig-leased by the foolish legislative tin-are already turbid with prejudice and sexual panic.

Even Jack Straw, who had the decency to place an unequivocal statement about equality before the law, betrays some confusion on of encouraging one lifestyle over another," he assured the House, perhaps anxious to forestall Tory terrors that the Government is seeking to encourage more of its citizens to have it both ways.

cabulary by Ben Bradshaw, one of the few MPs who is open about his homosexuality: "Lifestyle" implied THE SKETCH

He was quickly called on his vo- some element of choice, he protested, whereas most evidence suggested that a person's sexuality was considerably less whimsical than

Hansard notes that he had, only seconds before.

The honourable member for Bigotry East got him off the hook by shouting something about having the choice to maintain selfdiscipline, an intervention seconded by the members for Buggery-onthe Brain and Molestation Magna.

The response from the Tory frontbench was far more considered, touching even, with Sir Norman Fowler recalling his own sexual coming of age during the Aids crisis. There have been reports

that "I agree," stuttered the Home that this was an eye-opening time Secretary. "And I hope he'll note that for Sir Norman, exposing him to a I haven't used that term." I hope crash course in the many exotic ways in which two human lego bricks can click together.

Rather winningly, he referred to the jokes about his besmirched innocence and confessed to learning two valuable lessons. The first was that the public wants information from government, not moral guidance, and the second was they can be mature and sensible about such matters. "We should proceed with a certain amount of burnility," he said, pointing out that the party wasn't exactly in a good position to hand out moral lectures.

I confess that I was seduced - his speech was reflective and unpartisan. It recognised the limits of legislation when it comes to redirecting human lust and it refused to pander to the prejudices of members on both sides of the House. I was just about to surrender to him completely when his true intentions became clear. Sir Norman opposed the lowering of the age of consent, on the grounds that opinion polls showed the public didn't want it.

Indeed, I did wonder briefly whether I might be able to bring a prosecution under the new legislation, having been so shabbily abused by an older man in a position of trust.

MPs give mass backing to gay sex at 16

consent for homosexuals to 16 came closer to reality yesterday as MPs backed the measure overwbelmingly for the second time in seven months.

The Government is needeng to push through the package as part of the Sexual Offences Bill which will include guidelines to protect youths aged 16 and 17 who are in care, boarding schools or the armed forces after peers overturned the first Commons vote in July.

Ministers hope such statutory safeguards will persuade peers to back the moves by bowing to their concerns about young people who could have their trust abused. The peers voted down the age-of-consent measure last year when it was contained in the Crime and Disorder Bill, despite its big Commons majority.

the European Commission of Human Rights ruled that an unequal age of consent was a vithe European Convention on Human Rights. The three main party leaders and almost all the Cabinet voted for the change.

Opening the new Bill's second reading dehate, which will be decided in a free vote, Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, argued for the age reduction because he believed in "equality before the law".

Offering assurances to protect vulnerable teenagers, he said a new offence of abuse of trust would be introduced and codes of conduct strengthened to prevent abuse in other areas

Uxl 3.5 1pr

Wil Wil En 5.2 4.1

Bla Pri

6.1 6.3 1,4

WK AB Wc 4.2 Bla 2.4

HOMOSEXUAL RIGHTS BY SARAH SCHAEFER

such as the voluntary sector. The Bill was "a good meadamental need to ensure young people are adequately protected with the right which all our citizens should have to equality before the law."

Mr Straw said the Bill would for male homosexuals in England, Wales and Scotland and to 17 in Northern Ireland, equalising it with that for beterosexuals in each part of the UK.

"This is not a question of encouraging one lifestyle as against another or of encouraging young people to have sex. Far from it: instead, it is a question of equality before the law. It is not, in my personal The Government had of- view, right for the law to disfered a vote on the issue after criminate against the bomosexual," he said.

But Desmond Swayne, Tory MP for New Forest West, said olation of privacy laws and the law should restrain activianti-discrimination clauses of ty that the majority viewed as "undesirable or unnatural", adding: "People do have the choice to maintain self-

Replying, Mr Straw made clear there was no evidence that when homosexual acts were illegal at any age, this cut the number of people engaging in them. It led to "huge burnan unhappiness and very great

An abuse of trust could "where someone in a position of authority uses their influence or power, either deliberately or unintentionally, to

enter into an ostensibly consensual sexual relationship with someone over whom they are in a position of authority"

The shadow home secretary, Sir Norman Fowler, told MPs that recent polls proved the public was as a whole opposed to a lowering of the age of consent when it came "nearer and nearer to what they regard as childhood".

However strongly MPs felt reduce the age of consent to 16 on the issue, they "would do well to take note" of public opinion, he said, adding: "I do not believe that there is any evidence to suggest that public opinion is unreasonable on this issue of the age of consent.

"I don't believe their vote indicates an inherent prejudice against the gay community; rather, it is the case that many of the public who are polled are parents themselves and are concerned about the possible impact that a change in the law could have on 16 and 17-yearolds in this country."

The public felt there was a

"What I am arguing is that the position should not be made worse and the risk should not be made greater," he said.

Joe Ashton, Labour MP for Bassetlaw, whose amendment last year inspired the Govern-ment to redraft its plans, welcomed the Bill.

"magnificent job in listening to the backbenchers in the House and the mood of the House, which was perhaps misunderstood last June".



Jack Cunningham, Minister for the Cabinet Office, at Rhyl Primary School, where he commended pupils' recycling efforts Mark Children

Computer robs pensioners of cash

£170m computer would be run-

ning by the Government's new

for jobseeker's allowance had

been cleared without the ben-

efit of up-to-date information,

and 160,000 claims for state

More than 1.2 million claims

larget date of 1 March.

sioners out of pocket by up to £100 a week, a Whitehall spend-

He said Mr Straw had done

responsibility on adults to "do everything in our power" to ernment computer system has avert the risk of children being left more than 160,000 pen-

ing watchdog has found. The Nabonal Audit Office confirmed that hundreds of thousands of pensioners, widows and jobseeker's allowance

claimants have been underpaid because of defects in the national insurance records system.

A scathing report presented to the Commons Public Accounts Committee yesterday said private pension providers had been paid nearly £40m compensation to cover the blunders.

The brand new computer system, devised for the Contributions Agency by Andersen Consulting was supposed to log every single national insur-ance contribution and calculate benefits owed to employees. It went online last July, but crashed within days, leaving more than 17 million contribu-

tions unprocessed and forcing civil servants to guess the level of pensions and other benefits

earnings-related pensions had been underpaid by up to £100 a week. About 25,000 claims for widow's benefit are being made on an emergency basis and

more than 350,000 claims for incapacity benefit have also gone ahead without full information. David Davis, chairman of the

were "serious doubts" that the "a clear faiture" to deliver a cru- fore the Public Accounts Come cial service to some of the most vulnerable in society. Alistair Darling, the Secretary

of State for Social Security, wrote to all MPs last September, claiming the system would be operational "within a couple of weeks". lain Duncan Smith, the Tory social security spokesman, said

Mr Darling's stance highlighted a lack of concern and urgency about the problem. "The complacency of the Government comes close to deceit," he said. George Bertram, chief executive of the Contributions

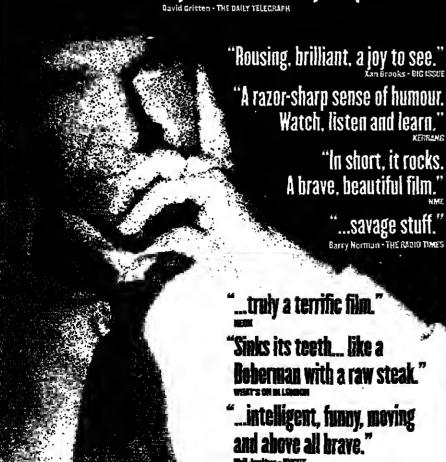
Agency, faced sharp criticism

The report concluded there committee, said there had been from MPs when he appeared mittee yesterday. Alan Williams Labour MP for Swansea West, told him the "shambles" suggested Andersen Consulting had used the benefits system as

part of its learning curve. Stephen Timms, the Pensions minister, said yesterday on BBC Radio that compensation, including interest, would be paid as soon as the system was operating properly.

■ The Post Office will stop redirecting housing benefit cheques from next month in a new attempt to stamp out fraud, Mr Darling said yesterday.

"BRACING. INSPIRED. OPULENT. GORGEOUS. DELICIOUS. This extraordinary film constantly surprises.



NOW SHOWING AT SELECTED CONSTRUCTION OF SELECT

QUESTIONS ANSWERS Balkan danger VIOLENCE IN Kosovo could spark a 'catastrophe", the Secretary of State for Defence, George Robertson said, adding that the problem had no 'easy or glib" solutions.

Net defence A PACKAGE OF measures will be introduced to defend Britain's computer systems, the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, disclosed. **Denning praise**

THE FORMER MASTER of the Rolls, Lord Denning, was described as "one of the greatest living Englishmen" by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, as peers paid tribute to him after his 100th birthday

on Saturday.

Virgin delays upset minister's triumph

PETER KILFOYLE, the Public Services minister, was due yes-terday to launch a new taskforce to improve quality in public services. He was also to announce that the biggest number yet of government services had won the Charter Mark award which aims to make organisations more efficient and effective. But instead of trumpeting the achievements of public services be arrived late, embarrassed and furious.

AND

PUBLIC SERVICES By Sarah Schaefer

Mr Kilfoyle took the Virgin Railways west coast train from Liverpool to London Euston. He msde clear Richard Branson's train service did not have a Charter Mark: "No, they did not apply. They knew they would stand no chance of winning it,"

The 508 Charter Mark winners will be announced today.

THE HOUSE



Church debate

SIMON HUGHES, a possible Liberal Democrat eadership contender, backed calls for the disestablishment of the Church of England. But Labour's Stuart Bell said: "It is interesting to know that the Liberals feel that disestablishment is in the [public] interest."

Spying demand

TAM DALYELL, the Labour MP for Linlithgow, urged ministers to respond to an exclusive investigation published in yesterday's Independent that MI6 officers worked under cover as part of the Unscom team looking for biological and chemical weapons in Iraq.

Product Recall Notice

Teletubbies Soft Torch (foam covered, £5.99)



المكاب الاعل ا

Woolworths has learned of a potential safety issue with its Teletubbies Soft Torch (product code: TT502). The soft character material is a potential choking hazard to young children.

Product Code: TT502

In the interests of customer safety and as a precautionary measure, the Teletubbies Soft Torch has been withdrawn from sale in all Woolworths stores.

Any customer who has purchased this product from Woolworths since October 1998 should teturn it to their nearest store where a full refund will he given. A receipt is not necessary.

No other Teletubbies products are affected.

WOOLWORTHS

developing world that is so poliuted lent to smoking up rettes a day; an it study has found.

The expected Third World mega more, combined w dustrial developm reliance on dirty in creating the condi huge increase in respiratory disease

The a critic all or head

PERCEP'

PEOPLE ENJOY W because they appea itive part of the searches for a simp Lhe world. Neurologists explain why poin

sculpture are a stat sure have discov artists unwittingly tendency of the brai abstract side of the brain, called the tem, tries to captur essence of an object nating extraneous i and amplifying fee make a fore: unic

ciation for the Adva Vilayanur Ranu of the University of San Diego said th abstract art. artist consciensly discover of the rules the bra

tists told the Amer

They are heightening that w

Francois Boucher (ed a women's skin making Sash far pin

Sculptors in 31 india amplified ti torm by exaggeration and hips while m waist unnaturally "The point of art is a a woman or a landse capture the very es just to capture it bu fy it and distort it, th ting your limbic sy

"That's what a doing, titillating t pathways more optiyou could with a re said the professor.

"What you are do ing a woman's form ing the form of ar male and amplifying ference, and of cour up with women breasts and big hip

Cold

THE BIG Bang, whice the start of creation. massive explosive fi more like a cold fizz, to a new theory.
Andrei Linde, o world's leading cos said his latest ideas universe began abou years ago do not e great ball of fire but flating bubbles of s

Caine

generating an infinite



his career was si

HE PADIFIENDENT

American Association: Respiratory diseases are biggest child killer, plus new light on why we laugh and appreciate art

Third World air like smoking 40 a day

MILLIONS OF children in the developing world breathe air that is so polluted it is equivalent to smoking up to 40 cigastudy has found.

The expected growth of Third World mega-cities with populations of 10 million or more, combined with rapid industrial development and the reliance on dirty fossil fuels is creating the conditions for a huge increase in cancer and respiratory diseases.

Devra Lee Davis, of the World Resources Institute in Washingtoo DC, said the study came to worrying conclusions about the risks facing millions of young people, who are more vulnerable to the effects of air pollution than adults.

"Most children who live in large cities in the developing world breathe air that is the equivalent of smoking two packs of cigarettes a day," she told the American Association

"Never before in history have so many children lived so closely together in so many cities where they also lack basic services, healthcare and sound nutritioo.

The rate of growth of cities in the developing world is also without precedent. Many of these cities have grown in two decades by as much as the developed world grew in a half century," she said.

Children are more vulnerable to the effects of air pollution POLLUTION

than adults, the study found. "Children are smaller, they breathe more relative to adults and they breathe faster and they have lungs that cootinue to develop," Dr Davis said.

More children are dying of respiratory diseases in the world than from any other disorder. Scientists say air pollution in the largest cities of the developing world is often between two and eight times the maximum levels

recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

"The exposure of children to such polluted air in developing countries has sky-rocketed and is a relatively new public health issue, caused by a massive and unprecedented shift of populatico from rural to urban areas in the past few decades," Dr

The study, funded by the World Health Organisation, the

US Environmental Protection Agency and other groups. looked at three measurements of air pollution - total suspended particulates (TSPs), sulphur dioxide and nitrogen

WHO guidelines say the maximum permissible amount of TSPs is 90 micrograms per cubic litre of air. The problem is that these cities have rapidly growing economies but old-

dioxide.

fashioned technology: "While development is welcome, the fact that it occurs in areas with technology that is 30 or 40 years old places all the populations of these cities at risk," she said.

The report says developing countries should be helped to clean up their cars, factories and other polluters before it is too late. Developed countries, although many are still polluted, have benefited from cleaner technology.

"If these pollution-reduction technologies are made more countries, these could help them avoid the high risks to public health that result from current patterns of growth in their industrial and urban sectors," the report says.

Pollution has been shown to damage the cilia in the airways the tiny hairs that sweep out pollutants and invaders. Without the cilia, harmful chemicals can get deep into lung tissue and cause permanent damage.

The art critic in all our heads

PERCEPTION

PEOPLE ENJOY works of art because they appeal to a primitive part of the hrain that searches for a simpler view of the world.

Neurologists trying to explain why paintings and sculpture are a source of pleasure have discovered that artists unwittingly exploit a tendency of the brain to see the abstract side of the world.

A primitive region of the brain, called the limbic system, tries to capture the basic essence of an object by eliminating extraneous information and amplifying features that make a form unique, scientists told the American Association for the Advancement of

Vilayanur Ramachandran, of the University of California, San Diego, said that in some abstract art, artists are subconsciously discovering some of the rules the brain uses to discover form.

"They are artificially heightening that activity into pictures.'

The 18th-century painter François Boucher exaggerated a woman's skin tones by is naturally.

. . .

. .

Sculptors in 9th-century India amplified the female form by exaggerating hreasts and hips while making the waist unnaturally narrow. "The point of art is not to copy a woman or a landscape but to capture the very essence: not just to capture it but to amplify it and distort it, thereby hitting your limbic system with

"That's what artists are doing, litillating the visual pathways more optimally than you could with a real object," said the professor.

"What you are doing is taking a woman's form, subtracting the form of an average male and amplifying the difference, and of course you end up with women with big breasts and big hips. But the







Scientists say the 18th-century painter François Boucher exaggerated a woman's skin tones, such as in "The Odalisque' (main); Leonardo's 'Virgiu and Child" (left) and portrait of Isabella d'Este appeal to a 'primitive' side of the brain Bridgeman Art Library

limbic system likes that." The phenomenon is well known to behavioural scientists, who find that when rats are taught to associate a rectangle with food, they find

longer and narrower rectangles more exciting, Professor Ramachandran said. "It may not be a coinci-

dence that the ability of the artists to abstract the essential features of an image and discard redundant information is essentially identical to what the visual areas themselves have evolved to do. You can learn about the brain by study-

ing art." Patrick Cavanagh, a brain

researcher at Harvard, said the fondness of artists for line that would let us learn about drawings is based on nerve cells that are built to register how lines should be used in dark against light, which line drawings. results in the identification of

"If you go into the physiola line. "Line drawings are a ogy you do find cells that seem large part of art history and to do that. We know that current art production but artists discovered this long there are no lines around

Woman who couldn't help laughing

SENSATION

A WOMAN who could not stop laughing each time doctors stuck a needle in her skin has helped scientists to explain why we laugh - it is nature's way of signalling that a potential threat is no big deal.

Evolutionary biologists have long puzzled over why humans laugh but Vilayanur Ramachandran, professor of neuroscience at the University of California, San Diego, believes it is a way for people to alert others that a fearful sit-

uation is a false alarm. To explain his theory, Professor Ramachandran told the American Association for the Advancement of Science of a patient, a women in her fifties. who suffered an unusual form of a condition called pain asymbolia, in wblch people report that they feel pain but

it does not hurt them. The woman also could not help laughing each time she experienced a painful stimulus. "She would laugh uncontrollably each time I would stick a needle into her and when I asked why she said 'I don't know'," Professor Ramachan-

Brain scans revealed a stroke had damaged the part of explaining the patient's unof the brain that received signals from the skin, which meant the pain stimulus was not passed on to the part of the brain that registers burtful experiences.

Professor Ramachandran said this meant the woman's brain was aware something potentially painful was happening to her trut that this was apparently no hig deal as it did not burt. He believes this follows the recipe for a good joke, which is why sbe eoded up laughing.

"If you look at all jokes and humour you notice they follow a certain pattern, which is especially obvious in slapstick. You take the listeoer along a garden path of expectation by building up the story. At the very end you introduce a twist or anomaly which entails a complete reinterpretation of everything that has been said before. You call it the punch line," he said.

A man slipping on a banana who cuts his head badly is not amusing, but if be gets up without any harm done, it is funny. "In the second case the brain is fooled but there is no hig deal. It is a false alarm.

"The question is: why sbould you laugh and produce this bysterical sound?

The reason I think is that you are alerting other members of your kin saying, Look there has been a false alarm bere don't waste your resources rushing to belp'. Laughter is nature's OK signal, just as a baby's cry is an alarm signal.

The theory is the only way usual response and might be why laughter is so universal. Professor Ramachandran said. "One part of her brain is saying, 'Look there is pain' while at the same time the other part is saying. 'That's no big deal'.

So the two key ingredients potential alarm and no hig deal - are fulfilled in her and so sh e starts laughing uncontrollably," he said.

Cold fizz dampens Big Bang theory

THE BIG Bang, which marked the start of creation, was not a massive explosive fireball but more like a cold fizz, according to a new theory.

Andrei Linde, one of the world's leading cosmologists. said his latest ideas of how the universe began about 15 billion years ago do not envisage a great ball of fire but many inflating bubbles of space-time generating an infinite number of

ORIGINS

fresh bubbles, which expanded rapidly like the fizz in a drink. "The theory is very simple,

but we have had a lot of psychological barriers to overcome," Dr Linde, a physics professor at Stanford University in California, told the meeting. The Big Bang fireball explains several observations in

astronomy, such as why the universe is expanding and why there is a faint trace of radiation in every corner of the sky, but it is wrong, Dr Linde said. His model relies on cosmological inflation, which suggests the universe is like a giant expanding balloon whose surface becomes less curved and flatter. The concept is better at ex-

plaining other astronomical

observations, he said.

doing very well, so far. In the last 20 years no other theory has been proposed that can explain the present state of the What evidence is there that the universe was originally hot? None at all.

Dr Linde's idea will have to contend with the recent discovery that not only is the universe expanding, but that the

"It seems that inflation is expansion is accelerating -a fact implied by Einstein's theory of relativity. Equally, physicists and astronomers are wedded to the idea of the Big Bang, which universe as well," he said. in the Sixties replaced the "Steady State" theory, a suggestion that the universe was es-

sentially eternal The Big Bang revolution followed the discovery by scientists testing new microwave listening devices of heat residue.

Caine leads British charge at Golden Globes



Michael Caine: Joked that his career was slipping

BRITISH HOPES for the Oscars BY DAVID LISTER

have been boosted by Golden Globes for Michael Caine and Lynn Redgrave and two awards for the British film Shake-

The Golden Globes traditionally give a pointer to the Oscars, which are held in March. In the past 16 years, 12 films that won the "best film" honour at the Golden Globes have gone on to take the same prize at the Oscars.

Michael Caine was named best actor in a musical or comedy film for his role as a sleazy theatrical agent in Little Voice. Picking up the award at the ceremony in Beverly Hills, Cal-

ifornia on Sunday night, the actor said: "Oh, what a shock.

Arts News Editor

My career must be slipping. This is the first time I've been available to pick up an award." Lynn Redgrave won the film

supporting actress award for her role in Gods And Monsters. Ms Redgrave, who played the crusty but loving maid to an ageing horror director, said: "It's been 32 years since I stood one of these on a mantelpiece and it's been crying out for a

friend ever since." Other British successes included the best comedy or musical film award to Shakespeare in Love, produced by David Parfitt and directed by John Madden, while Sir Tom Jackie She lost the best actress

Stoppard and his American in a drama film award to the colleague Marc Norman, who wrote the script, won the best screenplay award. But the actress Imelda

Staunton, who also stars in the film, said success at the Oscars should not be taken for granted. "The Oscars don't have a best comedy and best drama category - just best film." Gwyneth Paltrow, who stars

in Shakespeare In Love, won the Golden Globe for best actress in a comedy film, beating Jane Horrocks, who had been nominated for ber leading role in Little Voice. Another British loser was Emily Watson who played the cellist Jacqueline du Pré in Hilary And

Australian Cate Blanchett for her title role in Elizabeth. Best dramatic actor was Jim Carrey for The Truman Show.

Saving Private Ryan was named best dramatic film, with Steven Spielberg best director for the graphic war story. Jack Nicholson, who in the past has been nominated for 14

Globes and won five, received the Cecil B de Mille Award for his "outstanding contribution to the entertainment field". The Golden Globes, which are split between drama and comedy or musicals, are voted

for by the Hollywood Foreign

Press Association. Thank you ... everyone! Review, Front

5.75% GROSST/

The Savings Account where you can always bank on high interest.

COMPETITIVE RATES Keeping up with competitive

savings rates has always meant shifting your money from one account to another. Until now.

Our Instant Access Savings Account saves you the trouble by guaranteeing to match all changes in Base Rate** until February 2002, on all balances above £5,000. Our current rate is a highly competitive 5.75% Gross/AER on balances above £5,000 and 3.75% Gross/AER on belances below.

What's more, you can easily transfer funds from your account using our telephone banking service, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

GUARANTEED

Or, you can take out money any time you want from over 21,000 cash machines" in the UK with a Keycard:

To find out more about the savings account that is guaranteed to please, call free on 050n 804 8n4.

BANK OF SCOTLAND -BANKING DIRECT

call us free on 0500 804 804 Nos

ges flat die Ameri Connellen Rate en teinstat di 15,000 onc about wil de 0,075 in flat Bank di Scotland Bagt Rale und am cost di Frysland, 2010, Fryslands automit en de 10,000 onc about de 10,000 onc about

Heaviest raids since Desert Fox

BY ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington and RICHARD DOWNES in Amman

"I've got the

winter

blues"

Cheer yourself up

with 3 nights

for the price of 2

at Posthouse

3 nights North of England

Chester

Haydock

Hull Marina

Leeds/Bradford

Leeds* (The Queen's) Liverpool* '(The Gladstone)

Leeds/Selby

Manchester

Preston

Sheffield

Teesside

Wakefield Warrington/Runcorn

Manchester Airport

East of England

Newcastle-upon-Tyne

E100

£138 £138

£108

£108

E96

£100

£96

£96

£90

£88

Posthouse

0345 40 40 40

£96 Basildon

£90 Colchester

Ipswich

Norwich

Not part of the Po

based on I nights for the price of 2

TERRIS & CORDITATIONS

Prices are per person based on 3 nights accommodation (Fin73x), and Son) full traditional breakfast, 3 course distoer & VAT at 17.5% based on two people sharing a standard humpfootble room. For not-meet anothability and pricing call reservations for details. Up to 2 chaldrain uniter 16 stars and sail free when sharing a year with up to 2 audits - see Postinuse Lesage Breaks brochare for hill times act conditions. All experiments are subject to availability with a linking number of rooms subject to availability with a linking number of rooms seasolobe at these promptional rates. Cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer or spaceal promotion. Single occupancy supplements apply.

Brentwood

Cambridge

Landan - 8loomsbury

London - Gatwick

London - Hampstead

London - Kensington

OI Ashford

Ux Basingstoke

Bexley

Bristol

Fareham

Guildford

Havant

Farnborough

Portsmouth

South Mimms

Southampton'

Sentral England

Birmingham Airport

Birmingham City

Reading

Rochester

Aylesbury

Birminghan

Coventry Derby/Burton

Gloucester

Leicester

Lincoln

CO Aberdeen

Eelfast

Cardiff'

Cardiff City

Dublin Airport (IRE)

Glasgow Airport

Glasgow City

Glasgow (Erskine Bridge)

High Wycombe

Milton Keynes

Nottingham City

Nottingham/Derby

Walsall - (The Boundary)

www. Croydor

London - Regent's Park

£130 Bolton • (The Beaumont)

THE CONFLICT between Washington and Baghdad escalated to a new level of danger yesterday, with at least five separate attacks by US aircraft on

civilians were killed in what it called "savage" air raids on civilian and economic targets in the south of the country.

The official Iraqi News Agency, INA, reported "tens of people" injured in the attacks and the information minister, Humam Abdul-Khaleq Abdul-Ghafur, said those killed included women and children, following "at least two attacks on civilian sites".

Missiles hit the densely populated area of al-Jumhuriya close to the southern city of Basra, INA reported.

Mr Abdul-Ghaftir said the attacks were carried out by "the American and British fighters". A British government of-ficial said last night that no British aircraft were involved.

America and Britain say their aircraft are being targeted by Iraqi radar and surfaceto-air missiles, and that Iraqi aircraft are intruding into the no-fly zones established after the Gulf War. Iraq says the zones are illegitimate.

Iraq says the US and Britain are once again conducting an aerial bombing campaign against the country, not just sporadic responses to Iraqi hallenges, as London and

The level of conflict yesterday was the most violent since the air campaign, Operation Desert Fox, ended last month. It has become increasingly less lear whether allied fighters are



A 'Hornet' speeds past the USS Carl Vinson in the Gulf. US warplanes fired missiles in southern Iraq which, Iraq said, killed several people

defending themselves or are deliberately targeting Iraqi facilities at will. "There were air strikes in the southern no-fly zone as a result of provocation," said a US spokesman yesterday. He said the latest incidents targeted air defence facilities and surface-to-air missiles.

The US said the attack on Basra was a reprisal for an incursion by Iraqi aircraft into the been three attacks by US fightsouthern no-fly zone, not for an

effort to shoot down allied planes. In the past two weeks, the US has apparently changed the rules of engagement for its forces, allowing them to hit radar and anti-aircraft sites even when they are not under attack. Unusually, the US has been reluctant to release gun

camera film of the attacks. The US said there bad also ers in the northern no-fly zone.

Iraqi ground radar near Mosul, and the US had responded by bombing an anti-aircraft site and two missile sites.

America and Britain already have over 200 aircraft patrolling the skies over southern Iraq. In addition they have sent extra aircraft to defend Kuwait, and new A-10 tankbusters will arrive shortly to rotate with aircraft that are to return to the US. aircraft carrier HMS Invincible, carrying an extra 24 Harrier

Iraq may be trying to drive a wedge between the US and Britain and other powers through the conflict. Yesterday the speaker of the Russian Duma, Gennady Seleznyov, said he was furious at the attack. He told the visiting US Secretary of

Aircraft had been illuminated by Britain has also dispatched the anger. "I said, again peaceful people have been killed but she said nothing," he said.

The upsurge in attacks came less than 24 hours after an Arab foreign ministers meeting in Cairo failed to provide any comfort for Saddam Hussein's regime. The meeting told Iraq to comply with UN Security Council resolutions and to stop threatening its neighbours. Iraq's

Monica phobia may bring trial to end

AT THE start of the most cru- By Mary Dejevsky the President - perhaps the final week – the air on Capitol Hill was thick with the swirl of plans and initiatives designed to bring Bill Clinton's impeachment to an end. With the 67 votes needed to convict and remove Mr Clinton clearly not there, pressure was mounting from both sides, and public

opinion, to halt an exercise increasingly deemed to be futile. Many Senators feared the trial could descend into an illtempered slanging match no

E84 E90 E84

£88 £104 £82 £120 £82 £100 £84 £84 £90 £82 £82 £88 £88

3 nights

£78

different from the impeachment debate in the House of Representatives. But they also had party political concerns. With the row about witnesses back on the agenda and crystallised around Monica Lewinsky, the need for a compromise

Democrats, like the White House, fear the unpredictability that witnesses might bring. while Republicans fear loss of face from a premature com-

prolonging the trial. The big question was how to end it all, on constitutionally and politially acceptable terms.

The figure of Ms Lewinsky, who remained in Washington yesterday, seemed to loom over discussions as a warning of the perils ahead if the witnesses spute was not resolved.

Her precipitate return to Washington under a court order obtained by the House prosecutors had upset careful moves towards compromise,

explore whether she had more evidence that would support or clarify their case that Mr Clinton committed perjury and obstructed justice in his efforts to

keep their relationship secret. After a two-bour meeting with her and her lawyers, they affirmed that she did. Describing Ms Lewinsky as "impressive and poised", they said that she might be "a very helpful witness, if called". Ms Lewinsky's lead lawyer, Plato Cacheris,

begged to differ, saying that his

promise or the public oppro- and brought no clarity either. client had "added nothing to the - The most promising p ors had wanted to record sitting before the Sen- was proposed vesterday ate". The New York Times vesterday reported Ms Lewinsky as having told a friend: "I gave them nothing", a clear me to the White House that the President had nothing to fear.

Weekend polls indicated that almost 60 per cent of Americans - and half of all Republicans asked - wanted the trial over, and several senior Senators had offered olive branches along the lines of conviction without removal (Republicans) and a return to the idea of censure.

leader of the Senate's Democratic minority, Tom Daschle, who called it a "mutual withdrawal of forces". This would. entail the abandonment by the Democrats of the motion to dismiss the case, and the agreement of Republicans not to require witnesses. With the House prosecutors given what Mr Daschle called "a fair opportunity to make their arguments", the Senate would then debate the charges and vote.

Copernicus book that escaped the flames is found

in Madrid

A HISTORIAN in the small town of Orense in north-west Spain says he has discovered in a school library a priceless 16thcentury work by the astronomer Copernicus that somehow escaped the flames of Revolutionibus

Orbium Coelestibus, (On The Heavenly Revolutions Of The Earth), printed in Basle in Switzerland in 1586, explains with diagrams and mathematical formulae how the earth revolves around the However, heliocentric theo-

ries of the universe were condemned as heresy by the Holy Inquisition, and Copernicus's work figured prominently on the Catholic Church's list of banned books that were to be destroyed. The public burning of supposedly heretical works and people - throughout Europe and especially Spain was at its most intense around the time that the book

appeared. The Galician historian, Justo Carnicero Mendez-Aguirre, says he found the 213page volume, bound in tooled eather and embossed with images of scholars of the time, in the library of the Posio Institute, a secondary school in Orense, "It must be one of the few remaining copies in Europe to survive the Inquisition, and it is certainly the only one in Spain," says Mr Car-

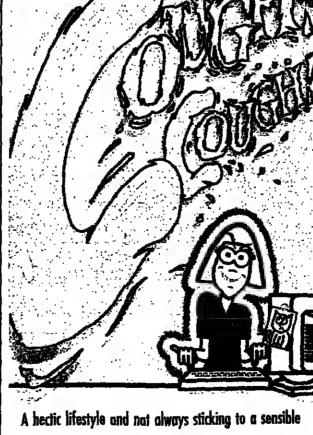


nicero. He believes the book lay for centuries in the vaults of a monastery. "It shows that the monasteries kept in touch with the scientific developments of the time, despite the prevailing censorship," he told the Voz de Galicia The work is in Latin, with

corrections by the astronomer Keppler, and contains many engravings of celestial bodies and mathematical calculations. There are also notes in the margin, which were written in Latin by someone in the 16th century.

The Posio Institute houses the provincial library of Orense, created from libraries held by monasteries of the region after they were dissolved in 1836.

∂ ② ● ●



diet cauld make you more susceptible to nasty cold viruses. New Zinc Defence's advanced formula helps support your immune system's resistance to infection.



HELPING YOU FIGHT OFF COLDS.

don't enjoy free banking... ...you're with the wrong bank for 24 hour banking call free 0800 24 24 24

For full written distalls of our services write to First Direct. Frespost, Leeds LS an account for view or monthly state for the first Direct. Frespost, Leeds LS an account for view of view or monthly state for the control of Middle Benk pile. First Direct reserves the north to destruct

Over 50 and renewing your motor insurance? Try Saga for high cover, low cost motor insurance

FREE 0800 484 184

quoting reference ID1916 Our lines are open 8.30am to 7pm weekdays, and 9am to 1 pm Saturdays.

maden on other Sign products and services and may pass on your decails to



Moss Don Neta

> ISLANDS - WINED # merson Vilahak Mon enterem ett of **flerijsts** range and the college water plant and lagence's

> > CZN E CZ extions on I wedented a nie ministe

mark of ast the following print the confolious the of terr airraining by the f prince's is that began Mr. M. m. dismisse If any orders before t mer no they man a re mon-rate of Mr Netary solutionent announce

tare the comme minis 💏 a new contrast ticket. The lines describes for Netanjah is Libud party t mer tinance munister Dan darand the ex-mayor of Te Roci Malo, as well as the fi army chiec of staff America lan Shansk have joined i form a new party.

On Monday, Mr Netar won re-election as her Likud But Mr Mordecha for the Israeli leadership is mous blow to hir Neiany chances for re-election

(if all the politicians have split from Likud Mordechai is considere most formidable challens Mr Netanyahu, whose coa disintegrated last month. ing him to call for new elec for both parliament an brime minister.

Mr Mordechai, whose h halls from traci Kurdista peals to many Likud ve who tend to emphasise the securio: Many are Je Middle Eastern origin. An opinion poil publish

Tokyo te by 'class'

THE JAPANESE for teach encer and until recently Ford suggested far more is English equivalent. Se is the honorific also use physicians, professors artists, implying wisdom. his and respect within But this week in To lapan's teachers are me an atmosphere of c beset by tales of unruly ar lent students, which hav them baffled and depress apanese schools al

rided themselves on thei cipline but this week's co nce of 16,000 sensei has nated by a new "classroom chac National arriety was stred in 1997 by series (thildren, the worst bein

ا مكاب الاص

.



Hussein appoints eldest son as heir

KING HUSSEIN of Jordan has dismissed his brother as heirappareot to the Hashemite throoe, installing his eldest son, the 36-year-old half-English Prince Abdallah ibn Hussein, as

crown prince. The move drew a mixed reaction from Jordanians, confused by the speed of the decision days after King Hussein returned from six months of cancer treatment in the US.

"Tm shocked. I can't believe that be has got rid of Crown Prince Hassan so brutally," one royal-watcher said. "The prince has been waiting in the wings for the last 35 years."

Prince Hassan's reaction is unknown, but palace sources are discounting reports from Egypt that he has moved his personal fortune abroad in prepa-

ration for an early departure. The royal palace failed to in Amman

of the changes. Insiders say King Hussein seot two envoys to Crown Prince Hassan last Friday to tell him he was no

longer in line for the throne. After a family meeting on Sunday, the King confirmed Prince Abdallah's return to a position he held once before, from 1963 to 1965, as an infant.

King Hussein appointed his brother to the post in 1965 because of a series of assassination attempts and amid concerns that a long regency would destabilise the country.

The poor performance of Crown Prince Hassan during the King's long absence was the real reason behind his sacking. "The King felt he was too interfering. He tried to influence what the government was doing too much," said one courtier.

the Mayo Clinic, Minnesota, to a tumultuous reception in Jordan last week, promising "sweeping reforms"

While Jordanians have a form of democracy, including elections, government by cabinet and ministers, real power remains with the royal family.

Suggestions that American and British officials have tried to influence the King to move in a more democratic direction have been dismissed by the palace as "nonsense".

Speculation that 18-year-old Prince Hamzah, the eldest soo of King Hussein's marriage to American-born Queeo Noon would be made crown prince was wide of the mark, although the monarch has made it clear that Prince Hamzah should take over the throne in the event of Prince Abdallah falling

Prince Abdallah is consid ered an energetic soldier and at-tained the rank of major-general in the army last year. He is also known to be interested in economics and development issues and is married to Rania al-Yassin, a Jordanian of Palestinian origin.

In a country where by some estimates more than 65 per cent of the population is Palestinian, the marriage was considered a shrewd gesture.

Jordanians refused to answer questions on the streets yesterday about whether they were happy with the new crown prince's half-British ancestry. The King has chosen him and I think that is enough" said one man waiting at the taxi rank.

His mother, Eoglish-born Toni Gardiner, known in Jordan as Princess Mona, has continued to live in the country since her 1972 divorce from the King.

Mossad told: 'Don't trust Netanyahu'

ISRAELS SACKED defence By DEBORAH HORAN minister, Yitzhak Mordechai, delivered his most stinging criticism yet of Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday, warning the country's intelligeoce service, Mossad, not to trust the Prime

"Keep an eye on them, so they woo't come up with any tricks." Mr Mordechai said on his last day in the job. He was unceremoniously fired by Mr Netanyahu two days ago. He angered the Prime Minister by proposing to head a new centrist

party in the elections on 17 May. His unprecedented attack, which was the first time an outgoing defence minister has warned the intelligence comprime minister; follows two days on to a peace process it deof verbal sparring by the former political allies that began with Mr Mordechai's dismissal.

It came bours before the former military man, a relative moderate in Mr Netanyahu's government, announced his candidacy for prime minister on a new centrist ticket.

Two other defectors from Mr Netanyahu's Likud party, the former finance minister Dan Meridor and the ex-mayor of Tel Aviv Roni Milo, as well as the former army chief-of-staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, have joined him to

form a new party.
On Monday, Mr Netanyahn won re-election as head of Likud, But Mr Mordechai's bid for the Israeli leadership is a serious blow to Mr Netanyahu's chances for re-election on 17

Of all the politicians who have split from Likud, Mr Mordechai is considered the most formidable challenger to Mr Netanyahu, whose coalition disintegrated last month, forcing him to call for new elections for both parliament and for orime minister.

Mr Mordechai, whose family hails from Iraqi Kurdistan, appeals to many Likud voters, who tend to emphasise the issue of security. Many are Jews of Middle Eastern origin. An opinion poll published in in Jerusalem

the daily newspaper Yedioth Aharonot found that 32 per cent of those who voted for Mr Netanyahu in the 1996 elections would consider voting for the new party beaded by Mr

appy

nily?

such

seven

.cing.

dely,

two

ther.

and.

cing.

ser!"

nily?

table

and.

ings

Some analysts said the new party may represent the beginnings of a political earthquake in Israel, where politics have been dominated by the two biggest parties, Likud and Labour, since the 1970s.

Such a shake-up was made possible in part by the latest peace deal signed between a Likud-led Israeli government munity against the folly of a and the Palestinians. By signing spised, Likud narrowed the between its ideology and that of the Labour party, opening the way for a centrist party to

Such a centrist party is likely to be more conciliatory in peace talks with Palestinians than the Netanyahu governmeot. Mr Mordechai is considered a moderate in the peacemaking process and Lipkin-Shahak headed the negotiations that led to the second Israeli-Palestinian peace agreement, known as Oslo IL

Mr Netanyahu has already tried to brand the centrist party as "leftist", a code word that to Israelis signals capitulation to Palestinian demands. On Sunday, he accused Mr Mordechai of organising "a conspiracy to topple the government" and said that was what led him to dismiss the defence minister.

Mr Mordechai has launched his own attacks in return, suggesting Mr Netanyahu had been planning a colourful operation in Lebanon as a pre-election

ploy to increase his popularity. On Sunday, Mr Mordechai used the Bible against Mr Netanyahu, quoting Psalm 120 and hinting that he didn't believe the Prime Minister was serious about pursuing peace: "Too long have I lived among those who hate peace," Mr Mordechai said.

ALIZÈ. "SEVEN SEATS?" thought Alice. "And AIR-CONDITIONING? And ANTI-LOCK BRAKES? And TWO YEARS' FREE SERVICING? And TWO YEARS' INTEREST-FREE CREDIT? All this from £18,995?" She felt dreadfully puzzled. APART from all our favourite stories and characters, what are the essentials of a happy childhood? Security? Comfort? Doing things together——and getting on——as a family?

All the things the new Espace was designed to make easier. And now the Espace Alizé goes further. To standard safety features like driver and passenger airbags, we've added ABS. To little luxuries like a remote-control hi-fi, we've added air-conditioning all round.

And so that such benefits can be enjoyed more widely, the Alizé comes with seven seats (the rear five all adjustable, foldable and removable). Plus two years' free servicing. Plus two years' interest free credit. From £18,995 on the road.

"Curiouser and curiouser!" cried Alice (she was so much surprised, that for the moment she quite forgot how to speak good English). For more information, call 0800 52 51 50.

The Espace: Part of the perfect childhood.

Tokyo teachers beset by 'classroom chaos'

THE JAPANESE for teacher is BY RICHARD LLOYD PARRY sensei and, until recently, the word suggested far more than its English equivalent. Sensei is the honorific also used of physicians, professors and artists, implying wisdom, status and respect within the

But this week in Tokyo,

Japan's teachers are meeting in an atmosphere of crisis, beset by tales of unruly and violent students, which have left them baffled and depressed. Japanese schools always prided themselves on their discipline, but this week's conference of 16,000 sensei has been dominated hy a new buzz

phrase: "classroom chaos". National anxiety was triggered in 1997 by series of terrible crimes perpetrated by children, the worst being the in Tokyo

case of a 14-year-old boy who beheaded a 10-year-old. Now a milder contagion is reported to have spread to classrooms. The offences - fighting, fidgeting, chatting, scribbling oo desks and refusing to listen have shocked the Japanese.

The oumber of teachers with psychological disorders increased last year by 30 per cent and counselling services have been established for those under stress. The Ministry of Education has announced plans for 30,000 new teachers to add to the present total of 964,000, with the suggestion that they pair up to re

> Leading article Review, page 3

RENALLS OF FOR A National Exposes have a 12-mount columnal unleage contrary with the DAC membership plus 3-year bits community of the property of the proof of services supplied by amanges prouded by PFS Ltd Thesite House. Exp. Road, Expose Crist Jan. Figure assumption Country of these of going to press), Beautiful Expose assumption of the Jan. Services and the proof of the proof common networks assumement to commonstance and price to the rand, correct at base of going as prices, actions 17.5 Ty WEA, deletery to the dealer, mustice planes, and dealer are not excluded. Finance offers subsect to status, applies to any new branch Experimental and registered by 15th Merch 1999 Worten quadrions and price on the rand costs 118.285, depond 12.497.50, monthly recognized as 12.1897.10, mostly recognized as 12.1897.10, monthly recognized as 12.1897.10, most printed price 18.1899. APP OF Time servicing applies to the offer apply to private and becames participate only appendix to the control price of the Experiment and account of the Experiment and account of the Experiment and account of the price of the Experiment and account and ac

The New Espace Aliza

THE INDEPENDE

PERSON - media compan

POUND

+0.12: 1 5568

-122 -0.316 1 4079

186 .5 .41.43 709 53

100 to +0.40 104.90

25° 25 | 185 297.50

TOURIS

56.07

2.4585

0.8046

8.2862 9.1065

2.7270

12.46

1.0922

www.bloomberg.com/uk

Augusa (schillings)
Relgium (francs)

Jenmark (kroner)

inland (markka)

many (marks)

iance (francs)

He claimed that since he if pyramids were built in Yuwould go away. And, since a great shaft of energy rises up from the top of a pyramid, such a structure could also help to close the ozone hole ten twice to the Australian

Not to be deterred, Mr on the space station Mir.

The stones he gave me had

se over a proup of reference businesses with annual sales businesses - uchnig Lues st Dening and Recoy Crocks beyour a for of Pearson's officier _ S. huster

The stones are resonators. spreading the energy of the pyramids." He said he had dropped

One of Mr Golod's glass fibre Moscow pyramids

some atones around a prison near Tver, north of Moscow, and the restive inmates had calmed down. He also gave stooes to the sick, to put around their beds. "I do not charge money for this service. It is an act of charity."

"Is it white magic, then," I asked, "you know, positive psychological suggestion?" "No," said Mr Golod, a mathematician, "it's science. The stones work for you whether you know they are there or not. Of course, the effect is stronger if you know."

built his pyramid at Seliger, the lake water had become purer, barvests had improved, rare wild flowers had appeared in the forests and storks had returned. He said goslavia, the Kosovo crisis over Australia. "I bave writembassy about this but they do not seem interested."

other, 11 metres bigh, at Ra-mensky in the Moscow region Golod has taken steps to protect oot only Moscow but also the entire globe. He has persuaded a cosmonaut to carry some of his stones and they are now orbiting round Earth

> been energised inside the Seliger pyramid and came from the same batch that went up to Mir. To be on the safe side, I put an amethyst in my jewellery box. I gave the rest to Natasha. She was thrilled. "Scorpio - in the new year you will find new sources of energy. There. What did I tell you?"

HELEN WOMACK

16/ Freetown rebels hold journalist

TWO EUROPEAN journalists By ALEX DUVAL SMITH were abducted yesterday by rebels in Sierra Leone who later asked one to deliver a guerrilla demand to the au-

ODEON
Richmont
12.30pm.
Little Voi
9.30pm F
3.50pmm

BR/O Rich 4,10pm. of the 5 Mask of Meet Joe

3.20pm.

ROMFO

ABC (087 Meet Jos Practical 8.25pm

ODEON

050007) | State 12

8.30pm l

6.15pm.

Joe Black The Pare Practical 6.20pm.

ABC (05-tie Voice

STAPLE

6.20pm. State 3:

Voice 1 Meet Jo

STREAT

ABC Streath: Joe Bla Prince

Streath Commo 3.50pm of the 5.40pm 1.20pm Practic

STRAT NEW HOUSE

SURR

SUTTI-UCI & ton/O-3.45pi Voice Mask Black site of tical N The S

WALT ABC stow 4pm. Black 2pm.

WAL' THE! 2528 tie V Meei

WEL COR Eltha 5.45 6.15

WILL BELL

WIN ODE Wim Ene 5.25 4.15 Blace Prair 6.15 8.34 1.44

WC COI Wo ro

thoribes. Patrick Saint Paul of the French daily *Le Figaro* said be and a Spaniard, Javier Espinosa, of the newspaper El Mundo, were seized in a suburb of the capital, Freetown.

The rebels headed with the two into the nearby bush where they later released Mr Saint Paul. The Frenchman said the rebels ordered him to pass on their demand for oegotiations with Nigerian-led West African troops pursuing the guerrillas. They said they would oot release Mr Espinosa until their demand was broadcast on

The journalists had left their botel in the western part of Freetown earlier yesterday for the eastern suburbs where the

in Freetown

rebels, retreating from the advancing West African troops, are reported to be committing widespread atrocities against

A British operation to distribute aid to injured and displaced people in Sierra Leone entered its second day yesterday. But after a oew rebel advance on the capital, evidence was emerging of a command crisis among pro-government

The RFA Oak Leaf - a supply vessel to HMS Norfolk, the frigate that has been off Freetown for nearly two weeks - was due to arrive last night with rice and detergent. On Sunday, 15 tons of British and European

Union aid was flown in. But it became clear that accounts of an end to three weeks of fighting in and around Free-

radic violence has returned to source. east-central Freetown after reports that rebels are hiding among refugees from the city's

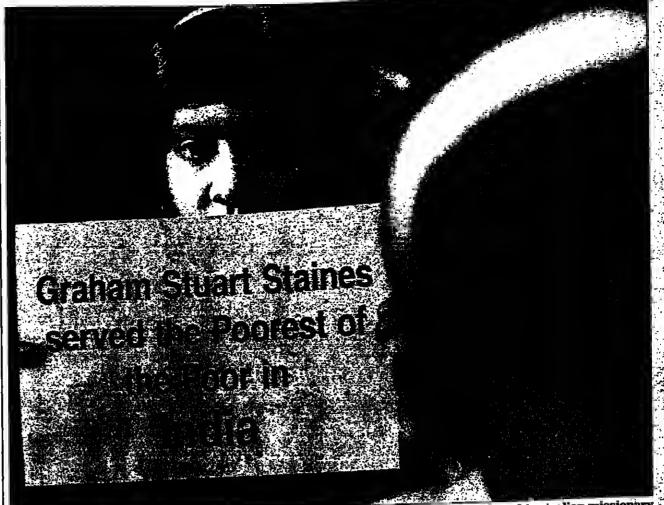
razed east end. After days of rumours about disarray within the Nigeriandominated command of the 15,000-strong West African force defending the elected president of Sierra Leone. Nigeria's foreign minister and chief of general staff flew in for an emergency meeting in Freetown yesterday. According to sources close to

the West African force, known as Ecomog, donor nations to West Africa are urging the Nigerians to pass control of the Sierra Leonean operation to Guinea. "The Guineans are better soldiers - trained by the French and the Soviets before them. They are more motivated because their country is potentially under threat if the Sierra Leone

town were premature. Spo- conflict continues," said the

It is not clear what was discussed at the high-level meeting yesterday - between Nigeria's Foreign Minister, Ignatius Olisiemeka, his Sierra Leonean counterpart, Sama Banya, as well as Nigeria's Air Marshal Daggash and the Ecomog chief, General Timothy Shelpidi. But according to a Western diplomat, it has been made clear to Nigeria that donor nations to Ecomog are disappointed with the effort to oust the Liberian backed bushwarrior rebels threatening

President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah. The Nigerian troops - many of them battle-weary after serving in Liberia – have not been paid since 10 December. Many, who are supposed to receive \$150 a month, (£93) say openly that they do not see why they should put down their lives for



Children joining a Christian protest in Delhi yesterday against the killing on Saturday of Australian missionary Graham Staines and his sons Philip, 10, and Timothy, 8, who were burnt alive in their car by B mob

Russia saved,

thanks to the

STREET LIFE

NATASHA CAME round with a pends on the harmony we

create around us."

do the stones come in?"

"I see," I said, "but where

"I buy bags of them and

put them inside the pyramids.

They become charged with

the special energy there.

Then I drive round Moscow,

scattering them on the road-

sides. Sometimes the snow cleaners sweep them away

and I have to scatter more.

pyramids

copy of Rabotnitsa (Working

Girl), a Soviet-era magazine

that is now glossy, feminine

and devoted to New Age

ideas. We turned first to the

boroscopes, essential Russ-

ian reading. Then Natasha

pointed out an article about

a man who was building a circle of pyramids around

"Aquarius - a meeting this

week that could change your

life. You should go and see that pyramid man," said

Natasha. I thought so too, al-

though I suspected the meeting with Alexander Golod was more likely to produce ries, "The Great Eccentrics of

Mr Golod, whose surname incidentally means "hunger", sent a white Volga limousine

for me. I was taken through a maze of Moscow back streets and an unmarked blue gate into a defence factory that produces meteorological equipment for aerodromes, ships and spacecraft. "I am the director," said Mr Golod. "But since the De-

fence Ministry has not paid us

for months, I am working oo

my private pyramid project." A small, white pyramid

stood on his desk, with a map

of Russia, scattered with

crystals, amethysts and other

semi-precious stones. He

reached into a drawer and

gave me a handful of similar

tones. "Take those," he said,

"Imagine this room is

made up of cubes. There is a

distorting mirror on the wall.

The cubes become twisted

and deformed. The space in

which we live is like that now.

Adam lived for 900 years but

we live for only 70 because our

space has become distorted.

This leads to war, economic

problems, earthquakes, holes

in the ozone layer and other ills. But pyramids correct the

distortion and restore

How he amassed the

money was unclear but Mr

Golod said he had spent \$2m

(£1.2m) on building pyramids

around Moscow and planned

to erect more. He showed me

a video of the biggest, tower-

ing 22 metres above the lake

at Seliger, 400km north of

the capital. There was an-

and a complex of five-metre-

high pyramids in the region

made of glass fibre rather

than stone blocks. They are

more elongated than the

tombs of the Egyptian phar-

aohs or the pyramids used by

Mexican Indians to observe

the stars. Indeed, they serve

tecting Moscow from flu. can.

cer and Aids." said Mr Golod.

"Soon these diseases will dis-

appear. Some people speak of

the apocalypse. I say we can

live as long as we want. It de-

"My pyramids are pro-

a different purpose.

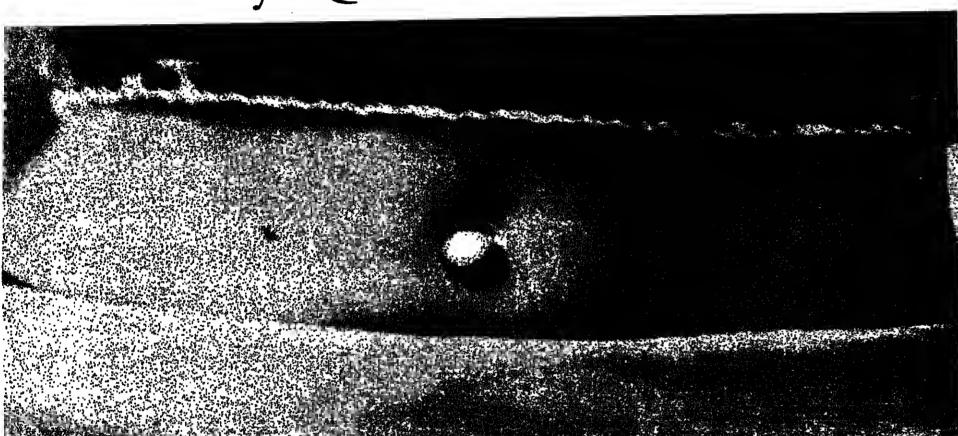
Mr Golod's pyramids are

of Bashkiria, to the east.

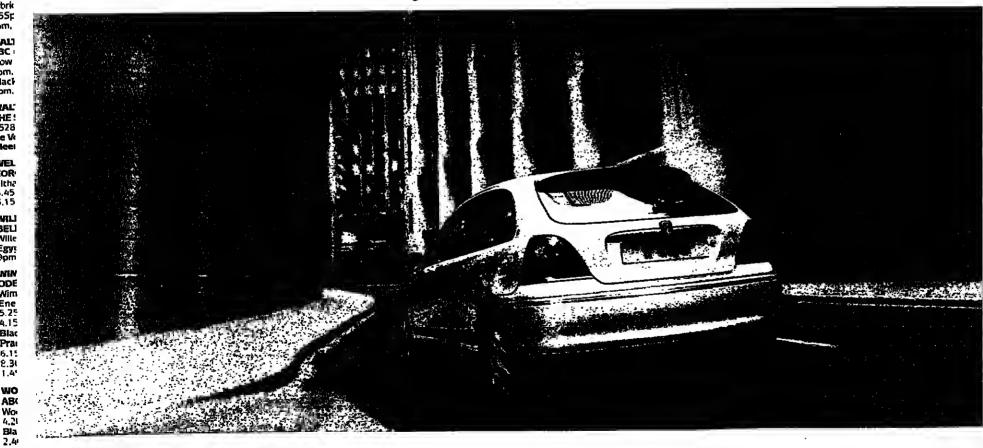
harmony,

oow I'll explain.

Pearly Queens in London?



A Rover 200 (with 0% finance) from just £8,995?



Take a fresh look.

It's no wonder Londoners like a sing-song. With 2 years' interest free finance 0% APR* (with a minimum deposit of 50%) and I year's free insurance, the Rover 200 is just the excuse they need for a good old knees up. If that hasn't got Mother Brown quaking in her boots, then perhaps the Rover 2141 SE for £11,900 with power assisted steering, remote central door locking and air-conditioning will.



The offer is available until 31st January 1999 Call 0345 186 186 or just visit your local Rover dealer and take a fresh look. www.rover.co.uk



BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Ericsson to cut 11,000 jobs

ERICSSON, the troubled Swedish telecoms giant, yesterday said it would axe 11,000 jobs worldwide in a bid to slash costs and restore investors' confidence. The company, which issued a profit warning last month, said that its 104,000 workforce would be reduced by more than 5,000 this year and 6,000 in 2000. Ericsson, Sweden's largest company, said the job cuts would yield cost savings of 3bn Swedish crowns (£234m) in two years' time. It added that the restructuring was part of its plans to move away from fixed telephone networks to focus on the booming mobile phones and Internet markets.

Green takes over at Sears



PHILIP GREEN (left) formally won control of the ailing Sears group yesterday when his January nvestments vehicle said it had agreed to buy 52.9 per cent of the shares. JIL. bankrolled by the Barclay Brothers, agreed to buy the 34 million shares controlled by Phillips & Drew, Sears' largest sharehnlder.

Mr Green, who was still in the south of France

vesterday, said he will move into Sears head office in London today to start work. He added: "I'll be there from noon. I'll meet all the management and get everyone settled." He declined to say if there would be any early decisions on how many of the old Sears board he would retain nr how quickly he might sell parts of 'ee husiness. "People think I'm going to sell bits and sieces within five minntes but that's not true."

Pearson publishers for sale

PEARSON, the media company, yesterday hung a for-sale sign over a group of reference and business publishing husinesses with annual sales of \$250m (£150m). The husinesses, including titles such as Webster's New World Dictionary and Betty Crocker's Cookbook, were bought last year as part of Pearson's \$4.6bn purchase of the bulk

FTSE 100	DOW JONES	MIKKEI
300	9500	4300
100	9300	14100
200	9100	13900
3	B900	13700
1 W 1 F M	TWTFM	TWTF

	IND	-			
	MADE	ゲモン			
Close	Change C	panke(X)	52 wh bigh	52 yrk low Y	44(%)
5880.90	19.70	0.34	6195.60	4599.20	2.75
4835.20	6.10	0,13	5970.90	4247.60	3.41
2770.00	8,40	0.30	2969.10	2210.40	2.85
2672,99	7.63	0.29	2886.52	2143.53	2.89
2091,40	-1.70	BO.0-	2793.80	1834.40	3.85
t177.90	0.60	0.05	1517.10	1046.20	4.61
818.80	0.50	0,06	1146.90	761,30	1.22
2725.83	14.66	0,54	3079.27	2018,15	2,16
1186.50	6.15	0.52	1332.07	880.63	1 44
9090.03	-32,44	-0.36	9647,96	7400.30	1.69
14208.61	54.41	8E.0	77352.95	12787.90	1.02
9499.50	239.02	2,45	11926.16	6544,79	3.70
4982,45	-36.83	-0.73	6217.83	3833,71	1,74
1223.27	-2.12	-0.17	1278.05	923.32	1,29
2343.31	3,95	0.17	2474,38	1357.09	0.29
6593.20	1.59	0.02	7837,70	5320.90	1.64
1190.21	•131.11	1.79	12339.14	4575.69	8.75
3364,86	- 18.91	-0.56	3713.21	2502.77	2.11
525.36	6.63	1,28	600,65	366,5B	1.87
4050.80	31.47	0.78	4404.94	2881,21	1,99
33648.00	-97.00	-0.29	39170.00	24175.00	1.21
9665.60	53.60	0.56	10989.80	6869.90	1,93
5254,46	20.87	0.40	5581.70	3732.57	1.43
539.76	-10.82	-1.97	631.95	277,37	1.10
2827.90	-20.50	-0.72	2902.90	2386.70	3.25
	5880.90 4835.20 2770.00 2672.99 2091.40 1177.90 818.80 2725.83 1186.53 1186.53 14208.81 9499.50 4982.45 1223.27 2343.31 6593.20 7190.21 3364.86 4050.80 33648.00 9665.60 5254.46 539.76	\$880.90 19.70 4835.20 6.10 2770.00 8.40 2672.99 7.63 2091.40 -1.70 1177.90 0.60 818.80 0.50 2725.83 14.66 1186.50 6.15 9090.03 32.44 14208.81 54.41 9499.50 239.02 4982.45 36.83 1223.27 -2.12 2343.31 3.93 6593.20 1.59 7190.21 331.11 3364.86 18.91 525.56 6.63 4050.80 31.47 33648.00 -97.00 9665.50 53.50	\$880.90	5880.90 19.70 0.34 6195.60 4835.20 6.10 0.13 5970.90 2770.00 8.40 0.30 2969.10 2672.99 7.63 0.29 2886,52 2091.40 -1.70 0.08 2793.80 1177.90 0.60 0.05 1517.10 818.80 0.50 0.06 1146.90 2725.83 14.66 0.54 3079.27 1186.50 6.15 0.52 1332.07 9090.03 -32.44 -0.36 9647.96 14208.61 54.41 -0.38 17352.95 9499.50 239.02 -2.45 11926.16 4982.45 -36.83 -0.73 6217.80 1223.27 -2.12 -0.17 1278.05 2343.31 3.93 0.17 2474.38 6593.20 1.59 0.02 7837.70 7190.21 -31.11 -1.79 12339.14 3364.86 -18.91 -0.56 3713.21<	5880.90 19.70 0.34 6195.60 4599.20 4835.20 6.10 0.13 5970.90 4247.60 2770.00 8.40 0.30 2969.10 2210.40 2672.99 7.63 0.29 2886.52 2143.53 2091.40 -1.70 -0.08 2793.80 183.40 1177.90 0.60 0.05 1517.10 1046.20 818.80 0.50 0.06 1146.90 761.30 2725.83 14.66 0.54 3079.27 2018.15 1186.50 6.15 0.52 1332.07 880.63 9990.03 -32.44 -0.36 9647.96 7400.30 14208.81 54.41 -0.38 17352.95 12787.90 9999.50 239.02 -2.45 11926.16 6544.79 4982.45 -36.83 -0.73 6217.83 3833.71 1223.27 -2.12 -0.17 1278.05 923.32 2343.31 3.93 0.17 2474.38

4.77

10.44

100

1 * \$120 \$

. .

- 1,9

www.blo

Seece (drachma)

Hong Kong (5)

Ireland (punts

Indian (rupees

Israel (shekels)

Malaysia (ringgits)

Italy (lira)

Japan (yen)

Maita (lira)

ORT STERLING	UK 10 YEAR GILT	US LONG BOND
· ————	4.40	5 18
6	4.30	5.14
,	420	5.10
T W T. F M	T W T F M	5.06 T W T F M

MO	NEY N	ARK	ET RA	TES	1	BONE	YIELD:	5
fades	3 month	Yr chg	1 Year	Yr chg	10 year	Yr chg	Long bord	Yr chg
UK	5.79	-1.77	5.44	-2.13	4.21	-1.85	4.22	-1.79
US	4.97	-0.66	5.03	-0.63	4.66	0.97	5.11	0.79
Јарап	0.46.	-0.28	0.46	-0.25	1.87	-0.20	2.85	0.15
Germany	3.07	-0.48	2.98	-0.84	3.64	-1.48	4.56	-1.13

C	URRENCIE	S
1 650 1 650 1 655 1 645 1 W J F M	7.430 1.430 1.425 1.420 1.427 1.420 1.427 1.420	190 188 185 184

				٠.		Trom 1/1/1	19 for ever
	POI	UND			DO	LAR	
	at Spen	Chaege	"Yr Ago		et Spen	Change	"Yr Ago
Dollar	1.6567	+0.12c	1.6568	Sterling	0.6036	-0.04p	0.6036
Euro	1.4322	+0.31c	1.4079	Euro	1,1572	-0.12c	1.1665
Yen	188.45	-¥1.43	209.63	Yen	113.76	-¥0 ,91	126.68
£ index	100.20	+0.40	104.90	\$.index	104.30	-0.10	108.00
	01	HE	RIN	DIC	ATO	R S	

	Close	Chg	Yr Ago		hedes	Clog	Yr ago 1	Heat Figo
Brent Oil (S) 11.12	-0.27	14.12	GDP	115,40	3.00	112.04	Mar
Gold (5)	288.35	1.85	297.50	RPI	164.40	2.80	159.92	Jan
Silver (5)			5.82					

11.12	-0.27	14.12	GDP	115,40	3.00	112.04	Mar
88.35	1.85	297.50	RPI	164.40	2:80	159.92	Jan
5.10	-0.04	5.82		Dan-	6 55	7 20	
ombo	erg.co	m/uk		SOUR	CE: B	LOOM	at Spin
-	0.11	RIS		TAC	EC		

Australia (\$)	2.5377	Mexican (nuevo peso)	15,43
Austria (schillings)	19.07	Netherlands (guilders)	3.0560
Beigium (francs)	56.07	New Zealand (S)	2.9692
Canada (\$)	2.4585	Norway (kroner)	12.03
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8046	Portugal (escudos)	276.94
Denmark (kroner)	10.39	Saudi Arabia (rials)	6.0427
Finland (markka)	a,2862	Singapore (5)	2.6695
France (francs)	9.1065	South Africa (rands)	9.6882
Gormany (marks)	2,7270	Spain (pesetas)	230.77
Orbitizaty (Hartis)	440.00	Cureden Armand -	12 50

449.00

1.0922

63.37

2699

186.03

6.0426

0.6084

Sweden (kronor)

Theiland (bahts)

Turkey (lirasi)

Switzerland (francs)

Source: Thomas Cook

Microsoft backs NTL to City seeks create UK cable force

MICROSOFT, the American software giant, yesterday made its first direct investment in the UK cable industry by injecting \$500m (£300mlinto NTL in return for a 5 per cent stake in the

acquisitive media group.

The move is part of a broader alliance between NTL and Microsoft that will see the two companies co-operate to develop broadband services to be delivered to residential customers at high speeds.

The step is a boost for NTL, which has issued huge amounts of debt in its quest to build a national cable network in the UK. Last year, the company spent over \$2hn taking over rival franchises. It also took out an option to huy a controlling stake in Newcastle

BY PETER THAL LARSEN

United the Premier League football club, from major shareholder Douglas Hall.

Microsoft's move sparked a renewed frenzy of speculation about likely consolidation among Britain's cable operators. City analysts have long insisted that the UK's three existing groups - NTL, Cable & Wireless Communications and Telewest - will eventually

NTL said it had been approached by Microsoft, which is looking for ways to invest the huge cash flow it derives from sales of its Windows operating system. "Microsoft has a lot of money to invest and they were looking for an investment

where they could work with someone who was developing new products," said John Gregg, NTL's managing director for corporate development and finance.

Under the terms of the deal, Microsoft and NTL will set up a technology group to guide the development of new services, including high-speed Internet access. In return, Microsoft will invest \$500m in NTL's convertible preference shares, convertible at \$100 a share. It will also receive 1.2 million warrants allowing it to huy NTL stock at \$84 a share. If all the instruments are converted into shares, Microsoft would be left with a 6.2 per cent sharehold-

ing in NTL. On Nasdag, NTL shares soared \$12.19 to \$79.875 by midday on the announcement. In London, shares in CWC rose 27.5p to 780p, while Telewest gained 23.25p to 250.75p as inrestors speculated that fur-

Telewest is seen as a prime target because TCI, the US cable group, is expected to sell its stake following its takeover by AT&T. "Consolidation moves are afoot," one analyst said. "But the question is on whose

ther consolidation was in the

Microsoft has already made similar investments in the US. Several years ago it sank \$1bn into Comcast, a US cable operator, in an attempt to encourage investment in US cable networks. "This is an endorsement

LUCASVARITY, the car parts

and aerospace group, yesterday

rejected a £3.9bn takeover bid

from Federal-Mogul, its ac-

The American company said

ucasVarity had refused to

open talks over a 280p-a-share

offer to create a motor compo-

nents giant with sales of over £7bn and more than 70,000

The rejection of the cash and

shares offer-pitched at a 40 per

cent premium to Lucas's share

price before the start of

takeover speculation - sparked

an angry reaction from Feder-

al-Mogul's outspoken chief ex-

and chairman Ed Wallis, he said

he was "disappointed, suprised

.. dismayed" at Lucas's refusal

of the bid, which was tabled last

week during a secret meeting

added that 280p was a "full price

which would offer compelling

value to your shareholders and

.. is worthy of their consider-

Sources close to Federal-

Mogul, which last year had

launch an bostile bid.

In an open letter to Lucas chief executive, Victor Rice,

employees worldwide.

ecutive, Dick Snell.

quisitive US rival.

Lucas rejects

from Federal

£3.9bn offer

of cable as the best network into the home," said Mr Gregg.

All three UK cable operators are due to launch digital cable systems this year. Apart from offering a multitude of television channels, these will also allow customers to use their televisions to surf the Internet at high speed. Experts reckon digital cable will offer Internet access at up to 100 times the speed of a normal modem, making possible truly interactive services such as home shopping.

News of Microsoft's move is likely to infuriate NCI, the software joint venture between Oracle and Netscape - two of Microsoft's hitter rivals. Just last month NTL said it would use NCI's operating system in its digital set-top box decoders.

BY FRANCESCO GUERRERA

war for the UK group, which

has been trying to strengthen

its US ties since the collapse of

a controversial plan to move to

the US in November. The com-

pany has said it was in talks

with several groups, believed to

include the US engineering gi-

offer came after the London

market closed. Earlier shares

in Lucas, which had sales of £4.7bn last year, had risen 13.6

per cent to 244p after the com-

pany made a statement

confirming "preliminary dis-

cussions with several compa-

A takeover of LucasVarity

would be the latest in a string

of ambitious acquisitions mas-

terminded by Mr Snell. Feder-

al-Mogul is smaller than Lucas

in market value, but its sales

large purchases, including last

year's £1.5bn acquisition of the

UK hrake pads business, T&N,

and of the car parts unit of the US engineering giant Cooper

between the three men. He have soared due to a number of

News of Federal-Mogul's

ants TRW and Tenneco.

Mirror Group auction

BY ANDREW GARFTELD Financial Editor

SHARES IN Mirror Group rose 9p to 207p yesterday as expectations grew that the chief executive. David Montgomery. will step down later today, paving the way for a fully fledged auction of the newspa-

Trinity, the regional newspaper group whose hid approach sparked the boardroom row, has signalled it is willing to raise its original 165p a share indicative offer. It was last night standing by to resume talks in the event of Mr Montgomery quitting today

Bankers say that with the boardroom row resolved, Mirror will be in a better position to negotiate with both Trinity and Regional Independent Media group, which had also tabled a bid with the backing of Candover the venture capital group, and Goldman Sachs.

There were suggestions at the weekend that Hearst Corporation, the US newspaper group, might step in with an offer, particularly if the decision was taken to split Mirror up and sell the national titles - the Mirror, Scottish Daily Record and Sunday Mail - separately from regional titles. It is the latter that interest Trinity.

Shareholders are also hoping that Axel Springer, the German publisher that tried to buy the Mirror last year, might return to the fray.

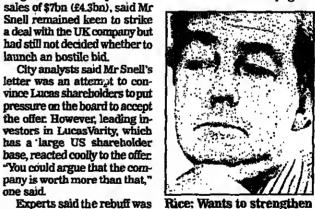
Sir Victor Blank, Mirror Group chairman, was last night believed to have persuaded the executive directors to abstain in the event of a vote for Mr-Montgomery's removal being required at a crucial board meeting of the group today

A last ditch appeal by Mr Montgomery to key Mirror Group shareholders appeared bankers insisting that they had not been swayed from their view that there was no way forward for the group with Mr Montgomery at the helm.

The executive directors. some of whom are extremely close to Mr Montgomery, had until late yesterday been expected to line up on his side, accentuating the split that has torn the group apart since the two sides fell out over the approach from Trinity two weeks ago.

Sir Victor is believed to have the full hacking of the non-executives, particularly Sir Gordon Borrie, the former director-general of fair trading. and Angus Grossart, who heads Noble Grossart, the Edinburgh merger bank, although Mr Montgomery had hoped to persuade at least one, Sonia Land, to back his campaign to stay. John Allwood, the former finance director who heads the regional newspapers arm, has already been lined up to replace

Outlook, page 15



Outlook, page 15

more likely to spark a bidding Lucas Varity's US ties

Mystery approach boosts LIG shares by 27%

one said.

Group, the world's largest maker of condoms, yesterday revealed it had received an unsolicited bid approach from an unnamed company, prompting a 27 per cent jump in its share price.

ing women's fashion retailer

chaired by Peter Simon, re-

ported its first fall in profits for

13 years yesterday alongside a

poor Christmas trading state-

ment which showed sales de-

clines accelerating, writes

The news pushed Monsoon

shares down 9p to 46.5p, their

lowest level since the company's

flotation in February last year.

Priced at 198p on flotation the

shares have now lost three-

Nigel Cope.

David Davies, finance director, said the approach was a pre-

LONDON INTERNATIONAL BY ANDREW VERITY

Peter Simon, chairman of Monsoon: Shares are at their lowest since flotation

Monsoon admits mistakes

sentation of its stores.

MONSOON, the underperform- quarters of their value in 12 ranges. Monsoon is also launch-

months. The company admitted

it had made mistakes with its

merchandise range and the pre-

beefed up its design team and

would improve its merchandise

ranges. It said customer re-

search had also showed that it

and were therefore "difficult to

shop" for its target audience of

busy working women. It will

therefore be simplifying product

The company said it had

wanting to discuss a merger. The shares rose 35p to 163.5p, valuing LIG at £446.2m. In spite of the price rise, Mr Davies said he was not required by Stock Exchange rules to disclose the identity of the bidder.

The news led to speculation that the bidder was Safeskin, a liminary one from a company

San Diego-based rival with a 69 a loss of £9.8m, down from a per cent share of the US con-

ing a shoes range in 20 stores

and a homewares range in 33

outlets focusing on bed linen and

ber profits fell 20 per cent to

£11.8m on sales up 8 per cent to

£66.1m. Same stores sales in the

half year were 6 per cent down

however the performance bas

worsened with like for like sales

Outlook, page 15

In the six months to Novem-

bathroom products.

down by 9 per cent.

stores contained too much stock on the year. Since November

LIG, which has 22 per cent of the world condom market, has struggled to expand its secondary business of latex gloves in the US against competition from cheap Asian imports.

In December its shares fell by 30 per cent when it revealed

profit of £5.7m. Much of the loss stemmed from problems at its Alabama subsidiary, Aladan, acquired in 1996.

icism from the City two weeks ago, announcing it was cutting 10 per cent of its staff and closing its headquarters in London. LIG's biggest rivals in the

Pacific-Dunlop. Competition authorities are likely to resist a merger with either company The group responded to critbecause of the scale of their respective market shares.

Observers believe Safeskin would raise fewer competition concerns. While Safeskin has a big presence in cheap exami-

condom and latex gloves mar-nation gloves for doctors, it has ket include Carter-Wallace and s lower share in the more expensive powder-free gloves that LIG has begun to develop.

Mr Montgomery.

Mike King of SG Securities said: "There is a fair amount of growth within the gloves market. [A merger with Safeskin] would put LIG in a position to grow its gloves business

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

LONDON IN A see-saw session Footsie

swung between a fall of 111.9 points and a 44.6-point gain before closing 19.7 higher at 5.880.9.

Fears of a Chinese devaluation, although denied, depressed sentiment. Bids enlivened events, with LucasVarity up 29.25p to 244p; after market close Federal-Mogul said it was mulling a 280p a share offer, but Lucas refused to negotiate 3i, talking to Electra Investment Trust, gained 14p to 631p with Electra up 119p at 682.5p. Derek Pain, NEW YORK

TECHNOLOGY stocks moved up yesterday, led by strong gains in Microsoft after it declared a stock split. But blue chips fell, hit by worries about corporate earnings figures and the economic difficulties in Brazil.

In morning trading the Dow Jones average was down 32 points, or 0.34 per cent, to 9,088, off its earlier lows. By contrast the Nasdaq Composite index, the barometer of technology stocks, rose by 4.41 points, nr 0.19 per cent, to 2.343.29.

3 TOKYO

GROWING OPTIMISM over Japan's ailing banking system helped the Nikkei 225 recover from early lows to close up 54.4 at 14,208.8, although volume was low, with investors looking to Wall Street for direction for the rest of the week.

Nissan Motors extended recent gains, amid speculation that DaimlerChrysler could buy a substantial stake, but banking stocks paused after recent gains. with the sub-index off 0.36 per cent, as investors waited for more news on government cash injections.

HONG KONG

THE HANG SENG index fell 239 points to 9,499.5. as fresh worries about a Chinese yuan devaluation drove interbank interest rates higher. Banks suffered as the

interbank rate rose to 7.52 per cent from 6.77 per cent on Friday, with HSBC Holdings slumping 2.3 per cent and Hang Seng Bank dropping 4.4 per cent. Property stocks also fared badly. However, the Chinaaffiliated "red chip" index ended only 0.45 points off at 687.

FRANKFURT

GERMANY'S Xetra DAX clawed back most of an early 2 per cent fall to close a touch lower yesterday. buoyed by a neutral start on Wall Street. The DAX began the day on a negative footing, reflecting a fall on Asian stock markets overnight on concerns that China might devalue its currency. But the bluechip index crept back up to end just below par at the close after the S&P March future turned positive and Wall Street opened slightly

12,50

<u>5</u>5.48

2.2250

523172

1.6199

୍ 😘 🛭 🗨

THE INDEPEND

Cartigranery con

giver for the sin-si

ces and 36

mestigation the

CO TATALON ME

---- :abloid

intermined to rise

्रंग दलकारम् स्व**ड निवस्**

From his Canary

micant want to li

me he ture it as a feifdenn at

police's a stay of execution.

near with earlier of the two ma

hiders But as seasoned CA

pries par instruction

ere this is a your the Bellan

WIA ODI Win Ene 5.2! 4.1! Bla Pra 6.1' 8.3' 1,4

WC AB Wo 4.2 Bla 2.4

Wo ro

News Analysis: Launch of Cruickshank's review sends shares into sharp reverse

Banking profits to be at heart of inquiry

telecommunications regulator, yesterday sought to play down fears of an onslaught against banking profits as he formally kicked off the government's in-quiry into the banking sector.

Mr Cruickshank, who was chosen by the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, last November to head the review, said yesterday that the aim of the inquiry was not to "bash the banks" but to see whether more competition was needed to improve levels of efficiency and innovation, both within the sector and in the economy generally.

"The review will not consider a windfall tax," he said. "It is an opportunity for them [the banks] to make their case as well as for others to complain." Despite the reassuring

words, the launch prompted City dealers to mark banking shares down 1.5 per cent. British banks are currently by far the most profitable in Europe and the degree to which those profits are accumulated at customers' expense lies at the heart of the inquiry.

The Government, Mr Cruickshank said, had posed the question. "How we can raise the lorg-term systemic growth rate to the rates of our competitor economies? The question for the review is how the banking sector is doing its part in shifting that growth rate."

The review, whose conclusions will be published before the end of the year, will focus on three main areas:

money transmission, the core of the banking system; ■ the credit card merchant ac-

quiring services (the area of the credit card husiness that services retailers); lending, with a particular emphasis on small and medi-

um-sized businesses. Mr Cruickshank has specif-

ically excluded the large corporate lending market, and insurance, both areas in which he believes there is enough

He also plans to address

DON CRUICKSHANK, the former BY ANDREW GARFIELD Financial Editor

> whether anything can be done crunches" - the tendency of times of economic downturn and the impact of the euro. He will consider whether Britain's being outside monetary union will deny consumers the benefits of greater competition, and whether it will damage the competitiveness of UK banking system overall.

Lastly, he will look at the impact of tax breaks. Generally, he said, he believed there should be little room for government, pointing out that the Government was in the midst of a massive overhaul in financial

Mr Cruickshank yesterday distanced himself from those in the small husiness and consumer lobby who have long

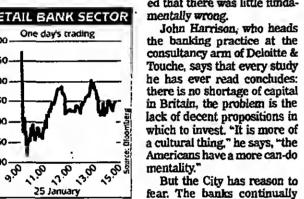


complained about the behaviour hut studies show that British of the banks. For those who were looking for a "more frontal attack" on traditional gripes such as overcharging and not understanding small husiness, he admitted "this may

Blaming British bankers for the failure of British entrepreneurialism is an age-old British parlour game. James Dyson, investor of the bagless vacuum cleaner, is just the latest successful British inventor to claim that he was cold-shouldered by a few narrow criteria, but in

hroader issues, including so-called "credit banks to draw in their horns in

services regulation generally.



point to their relative success.

banks could have much to learn

in terms of delivering to their

customers from rivals in Eu-

Angus Hilsop, banking part-

rope as well as the US.

ner at the consultants Priceseem like a dull document". waterhouseCoopers, says the sniggers that mention of Deutsche Bank or Credit Lyonnais provokes in banking circles here may be misplaced. "I know that view is widely held in the City. But it is out of date. British banks look good on

hroader efficiency terms you the banks when he needed get a very different picture."

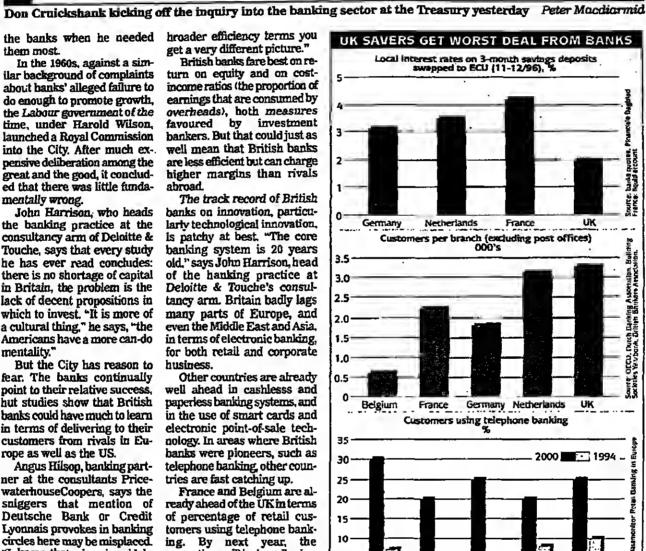
DON CRUICKSHANK

them most British banks fare best on re-In the 1960s, against a similar background of complaints turn on equity and on costincome ratios (the proportion of about banks' alleged failure to earnings that are consumed by do enough to promote growth, the Labour government of the overheads), hoth measures favoured by investment time, under Harold Wilson, launched a Royal Commission bankers. But that could just as into the City. After much exwell mean that British banks pensive deliberation among the are less efficient but can charge great and the good, it conclud-ed that there was little fundahigher margins than rivals abroad

The track record of British banks on innovation, particularly technological innovation, is patchy at best. "The core banking system is 20 years old," says John Harrison, head of the hanking practice at Deloitte & Touche's consultancy arm. Britain badly lags many parts of Europe, and even the Middle East and Asia. in terms of electronic banking, for both retail and corporate

Other countries are already well ahead in cashlesss and paperless banking systems, and in the use of smart cards and electronic point-of-sale technology. In areas where British banks were pioneers, such as telephone banking, other countries are fast catching up.

France and Belgium are already ahead of the UK in terms of percentage of retail customers using telephone banking. By next year, the proportions will be hroadly similar across the board. Whether these failings are due to a lack of competition is a moot point.



Notice to customers of Halifax International (Isle of Man) Limited.

Halifax International (Isle of Man) Limited announces revised interest rates effective from 1st February 1999.

BALANCE	ANNUAL INTEREST GROSS P.A. (CURRENT)	ANNUAL INTEREST GROSS P.A. (FROM 01/02/99)	MONTHLY INTEREST GROSS P.A. (FROM 01/02/99)
HAL	IFAX INTERNATIO	NAL MANX PRE	MUIM
£100,000+	6.75%	6.50%	6.31%
£50,000+	6.70%	6.45%	6.27%
£25,000+	6.50%	6.25%	6.08%
£10,000+	6.10%	5.85%	5.70%
Н	ALIFAX INTERNAT	IONAL MANX GO)LD
£100,000+	6.40%	6.15%	5.98%
£50,000+	6.20%	5.95%	5.79%
£25,000+	6.15%	5.90%	5.75%
£10,000+	5.70%	5,45%	5.32%
£5,000+	5.15%	4.90%	4.79%
£500+	3.55%	3.30%	3,25%
£10+	2.30%	2.05%	N/A

If you have less than £10,000 in your Halifax International Manx Premium account it will earn interest at the equivalent Halifax International Manx Gold rate. If you have less than £10 in your Halifax International Manx Premium or Halifax International Manx Gold account we will only pay interest at 1.00% gross p.a. "Gross" means we will not take any tax off the interest we pay. The accounts shown above are only available to residents of the Isle of Man.

Further details can be obtained by calling Halifax International (Isle of Man) Limited on 01624 612323 (from within the UK) or +44 1624 612323 (from outside the UK).



26th January 1999

HALFAN INTERNATIONAL IISLE OF MANT LIMITED IS REGISTERED WITH THE ISLE OF MAN PINANCIAL ISION COMMISSION FOR BANDING AND INVESTMENT BUSINESS BRANCH AND REGISTERED OFFICE, PO BOJ ?? 67 STRAND STREET, DOUGLAS, ISLE OF MAN 1M99 ITA, RECISTERED IN THE ISLE OF MANY NO. 062691C.

Markets hit by China fears

RUMOURS OF a Chinese devaluation unsettled Asian and Latin American markets yesterday, writes Diane Coyle.

China's central bank was forced to deny the possibility after a state-owned newspaper. the China Daily's Business Weekly, said floating the renminhi might he a good idea.

Most analysts think China will not devalue just yet. Ravi Bulchandani, head of foreign exchange at Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, said: "There is ohviously a debate going on in

Flying the Red

Flag in the City

IT'S AMAZING what a change of

government can do. An infor-

mal discussion group founded

around 18 months ago for

Labour supporters in the City is finding that an increasing

number of stockbrokers and

corporate financiers are willing

Phil Collins (no relation), an

equity strategist with Dresdner

Kleinwort Benson, set up the

EC4 Club, a discussion group

aimed at improving links be-

tween the Square Mile and the

Labour Party, after spending

four years in the City and still

finding "I knew virtually no

one with Labour connections".

sistant to Frank Field in 1989-

92 and helped the then shadow

minister with his work on wel-

fare and pensions reform. He

then had a spell lecturing in phi-

losophy before he "stumbled on

a Job in the City".

Mr Collins was political as-

to fly the Red Flag.

official circles. But it would not suit China to devalue at a time of such financial turbulence." China has ample foreign ex-

change reserves, and has safeguarded the renminbi - the yuan's convertible twin - from Asia's financial woes. The Hong Kong dollar's peg to the US dollar is felt to be reasonably secure.

However, Asian markets fell sharply yesterday. Hong Kong's Hang Sengindex ended 2.45 per cent lower at 9,499.5 after plunging 4 per cent. Share prices also fell in Bangkok,

PEOPLE AND

BUSINESS

By John

WILLCOCK

room of the Windmill pub in

Mayfair once a month to hear

Finding new people in the tra-

ditionally True Blue Square Mile

who would like to attend is "a lot

easier than 18 months ago, I can

ing up to City wheeler-dealers

would be anathema to Old

Labour, Mr Collins agrees: "But

there are certain things that

they (the City) do that are vital

to the economy." Mr Collins is

now looking for a Tory to ad-

dress the group - hut is having

Treasury moves

around 15 people to an upstairs in the Treasury since Charlie icy job after three years in the

The club usually attracts THE DUST hasn't quite settled

When I suggested that cosy-

tell you," says Mr Collins.

a Labour Party figure talk.

Singapore, Jakarta and Seoul. Interbank rates rose in Hong Kong on fears that the authorities might raise interest rates to defend the currency peg.

rency, the real, fell to 1.78 to the dollar from 1.74 the day before. The flood of capital out of Brazil has passed \$7.4bn so far in January, and nearly \$50bn in six months. Reports say the central bank has spent \$300m

Whelan's departure. Fiona

Hamilton has been promoted

from the Treasury press office

to accompany the Chancellor

on his meetings with the media

while a new "Charlie" is

head of the Treasury's pro-

ductivity unit, has taken over as

head of communications and

department last year after a

period writing for the "Lex"

column in the Financial Times

-a joh ooce held by Ed Balls,

the Chancellor's economic ad-

viser - and working in the office

of Sir John Browne, chief ex-

Peter Curwen, returns to a pol-

Mr Kingman's predecessor.

ecutive at BP.

recruited

The tremors spread to Latin

America, where Brazil's curpropping up the real since its devaluation earlier this month.

UK cashmere business faces trade threat

THE BRITISH cashmere industry could be devastated and 1,000 jobs lost through US trade sanctions threatened in a bitter transatlantic dispute over banana imports.

The claim by EU officials yesterday came as new efforts were under way in Geneva to break the deadlock in the dispute that threatens to embroil Europe and the US in a fullscale trade war. The US government has said it will impose 100 per cent tariffs on a range of European imports if the EU does not offer concessions in its banana import regime.

British government figures released by the European Commission show that the proposed tariffs would hit the cashmere industry harder than any other UK sector, jeopardising exports worth £18m in 1997. "Up to 2,400 jobs in the UK

are at risk," said a Commission spokesman. "Factory closures and substantial job losses could mean the disappearance of the UK cashmere industry."

The Scottish Cashmere Association and Borders Knitwear Manufacturers Forum say: "Initial estimations indicate that in the region of a minimum of 700 jobs would be lost immediately, costing up to £20m worth of business. This could increase to 1,000 job losses through indirect husiness with the US and other clients."

BY STEPHEN CASTLE in Brussels

In a statement, the two groups said the tariff move would be "nothing short of catastrophic to the Borders knitwear industry".

UK cashmere production is concentrated in Scotland - particularly the Border region and West Yorkshire. Of the list of 17 items selected for tariffs by the Americans, cashmere is the biggest-value export. The next largest industry affected is printed cards, which in 1997 exported more than £18m.

The US argues that the EU import regime, offering preferential quotas to former European colonies, discriminates against American-owned producers operating primarily in Latin America.

Sir Leon Brittan, vice-president of the European Commission, says EU import regulations have been amended to take into account objections from the World Trade Organisation, adding that under the existing system 78 per cent of EU banana imports come from Latin America.

Trade officials were negotiating last night to head off the US threat to implement the trade sanctions, which could come into force within 10 days. Leading article. Review page 3

Electra soars 20% on £1bn bid by 3i

BY ANDREW VERITY

SHARES IN Electra Investment Trust jumped 20 per cent yesterday after the company confirmed it had received an unsolicited takeover approach from 3i, which could create a £4.4bn venture capital group.

Electra shares added 119p to close at 682.5p, valuing the company at £975.4m. 3i, the UK's biggest venture capital company, is reportedly offering 700p - more than £1bn.

Executives at Electra were yesterday locked in talks with 3i, and a fuller announcement is expected this week. Shares in 3i gained 14p to close at 631p.

A deal would create one of the largest venture capital companies in Europe, where the industry is estimated to be worth £40bn a year. A takeover of Electra would

complement 3i's strengths in the UK, where it specialises in management buyouts of smaller companies. 3i invested £148m in 287 businesses in the first half of 1998. Electra has specialised in larger acquisitions and is expanding in Europe, where venture capital is in demand to fund restructurings and privatisations.

Sources say executives are concerned about the impact of a takeover on staff at Electra Fleming, the investment manager that runs the investment trust's portfolio. Fund managers there are paid substantially more than at 3i, and some may leave if a takeover is agreed.

Analysts said institutional shareholders would probably favour the deal.

bear pit of the press office. Mr

Curwen had in turn replaced

Jill Rutter, a victim of early

post-election tensions in the

Treasury, and now herself

working at BP

IN BRIEF **Dixons** corporate

shake-up DIXONS, the electrical retailer, is to create three

retail groups - Currys, PC World and Dixons - in a corporate shake-up announced yesterday. Two new companies will aiso he formed: Dixons

Group Retail Property, to manage the company's properties, and Freeserve, to house the group's free Internet offering, which Dixons' chief executive, John Clare, will chair.

groups will be headed by a group managing director; reporting directly to Mr Clare.

Pathe stake sold THE FRENCH conglomerate

Vivendi and its pay-TV unit Canal Plus have bought a 20 per cent stake in Pathe from investor Vincent Bollore for 443m euros (£310m), quelling speculation of a takeover battle for France's biggest film distributor and leaving Mr Bollore with a Fr800m profit on the sale.

Canal Plus and Vivendi now own almost 25 per cent of Pathe, just behind Pathe's chief executive Jerome Seydoux and his family.

Packaging offer

A SECOND US packaging group has declared an interest in bidding for Buckinghamshire-based Field Group, which specialises in drugs. cigarettes and drinks packaging and last week recommended a 320p-ashare bid from Chesapeake Corp that valued it at £194m. New York-based Shorewood Corp yesterday said it was considering making an offer.

think he was right to do so.

MES IN Portsmouth & Sun-land jumped 10 per cent land y after the group said had received the group said tried a spell at the family firm but felt the need to strike out on his own. Railtrack obviously

led received alternative Assince Friday's hostile bid per cent of the company Mis rival Johnston Press. he share price jumped from to \$16.50. Valuing the com-7817 6m against £129.0m hursday the day before asion announced its offer physion, which has already on 14.93 per cent of the pisoffering \$16 a share to is stake up to 24.99 per On Priday it requested bottsent to allow it to raise Alge beyond this.
Charles Brims, chief execu-

of Portsmouth, yesterday the door open to a higher bon a rival group or ven-capial company, saying all would be considered. heare not being a dog in the parabout this. If someone ook at it Down in Day of the We Ast it But if we are going twill be at a much higher is than 1-16 a share. The British declined to discuss

include Newsquest, the

the money on a new communications centre.

If you have any news you wish

School-leaver Family property WHAT'S THE connection beween Norman Lamont, the ex

THE PROPOSED redevelopment of Waverley railway station, a 23 acre-site slap bang in the middle of Edinburgh, will probably not start until 2005 but it has already thrown up an interesting family tale. Railtrack wants to raise the

John Kingman, previously roof of the Victorian station literally - and build a shopping complex above it. I hear that Delancey Es. Mr Kingman rejoined the

tates, the development company backed by George Soros and run by James Ritblat, is on the informal shortlist for the redevelopment. James is son of John Rithlat whose own British Land tried

and failed to get on the same shortlist for Waverley. Another of John Rithlat's sons, Nick Ritblat, is on the Board at British Land, Jamie

Chancellor, Alistair Darling, the current Cabinet ministerand Jim Clark, the legendary British racing driver? They all attended Loretto School, Musselburgh, near Edinburgh

An old hoy of the school who spent his career with HSBC out East has left it £1.3m in his will.

The school only found out about the bequest by Donald Lachlan 10 years after he died, following the death of his widow, Caroline, at the end of last year.

The school intends to spend

to ahare with "People and Business, please e-mail j.willcock@independent.co.uk.

المكناس الاصل

of Britain's best-known thick retail chains changed ds yesterca, when the wateres were sold to the mode Warehouse group: ambone Warehouse, which

rs to the French gove Foos to inves**tors above** France, which is expe

arpho

laired by the former Guinchaumar Ernest Saun-Lisburing the stores from Plan which owns the Radio d electrical stores in the hed States he deal includes all 270 ches of Tandy in the UK

will give the enlarged Patotal chain of 450 stores annual sales of 350. harles Dunstone, founder aphone Warehouse, said landy name will be reed and that there are no

Ortsmou % on ri

THE INDEPENDENT Tuesday 26 January 1999 SSS face Now Mirror needs to fill Blank space bined group, but insists that primarily it was just that the offer wasn't good it was just that the offer wasn't good with the way of just in the way of

in driving David Montgomery out of the chief executive's seat?

That he will be going is not in doubt, even as, fighter to the end, he prepares to man the last of the barricades. The only question seems to concern the degree of dignity with which he is allowed to depart. About the best Mr Montgomery can now SALTE SE hope for is a stay of execution, to remain in place for the six-month mandatory Monopolies and Mergers Commission investigation that the group must go through if it is to merge with either of the two mooted hidders. But as seasoned City observers were saying last night, the recriminations are now so deep and bitter that compromise looks oext to impossible

and Ble

in the sign

Trans Company

restant to b

the one

(-: 1-2/-7/ TE

smake-up

How did it come to this? On one level this is about the Belfast boy made good, the former tabloid newspaper editor determined to rise to the top and finally getting his hands on a quite substantial publicly quoted company. From his Canary Wharf eyrie, he runs it as a feifdom and he naturally doesn't want to let go.



OUTLOOK

With his Ulster roots to the fore, he refuses to compromise the mannent structure he has put in place. The sense of siege is heightened by a persistently hostile press. To keep fractious investors off his back, be brings in a City toff with more than 30 years of deal-making behind him to act as chairman.

Very quickly it becomes clear they don't get along. They are like chalk and cheese, the clubbable, smooth-talking Sir Victor, and the aloof, workaholic figure of Mr Mootgomery. Finally matters are brought to a head by the termination of merger talks with Trinity, the regional oewspaper group. Mr Montgomery admits that in part the breakdown was about who manages the com-

by Phillips & Drew, Mirror's largest shareholder, accuses Mr Montgomery of putting his job before the interests of shareholder value.

Confusingly, Mr Montgomery then manages to vindicate his stance by attracting a rival and higher offer, from Regional Independent Media. But still Sir Victor wants him out. Trinity won't come back to the negotiating table unless Mr Montgomery goes, Sir Victor says through his emissaries. Throughout all this, needless to say, there has been only the most cursory of Stock Exchange amouncements. Mirror's advisers and the Takeover Panel are tearing their hair out as the story gets spun and respun unattributably through the press.

It is more than possible to fault Mr Montgomery's management style. though the City can bardly complain about his consistent record of earnings and dividend growth. And undoubtedly be has made many enemies over the years. But unless Sir Victor knows something the rest of us don't, it is hard to see what Mr

Mr Montgomery is determined to defend his position and empire to the last, regardless of the cost to shareholders

Well maybe, maybe not, but just how far are managements supposed to go in facilitating a hid? It is surely not realistic to expect executives to set light to themselves in order to allow someone else to step into their shoes. Furthermore, it is customary to pay a premium for management control. This, Trinity has so far shown very little inclination of doing. As for Sir Victor, his position is plainly riddled with at least as much conflict of interest as that of Mr Montgomery, and it might perhaps be appropriate if he too were made to throw himself on the pyre - all in the interests of shareholder value, you understand.

LucasVarity

IT SEEMS to have become quite the thing for companies to make highly conditional takeover hids. Thus we had a similar ploy from Federal Mogul concerning the other Victor

Victor Rice of Lucas Varity. Dick Snell, chairman of Federal Mogul, says he's prepared to bid 280p a share, but only if LucasVarity agrees and allows him in to do a full due diligence. It goes without saying that this bid is framed as a takeover. which would presumably involve Victor Rice and the rest of his board making a rapid exit. Mr Rice may have had to struggle with his aim of returning to the US, but even he had little difficulty in rejecting this entirely frivolous proposal.

Nor did his chairman, Ed Wallis, turn round and accuse him of standing in the way of shareholder value

by so doing.
Obviously it is in no one's interests to waste huge amounts of money fighting ultimately pointless City takeover battles, and it is certainly true that quite often managements are reluctant to agree proposals which might benefit their shareholders. But the system is hiased enough against vulnerable executive teams, without allowing must be feeling very sore indeed.

Monsoon

MONSOON looked over-priced when it limped on to the stock market last year, and so it has proved. Shares in the women's fashion retailer have now lost three-quarters of their value since the float last February.

This company's many critics were plainly right to advise in-vestors oot to touch Monsoon with a barge-pole. The racy multiple attached to the shares suited no one. apart from Peter Simon, the group's Armani-clad founder, who netted a very handy £85m from the float.

This was a company which had pulled a float plan before because of concerns about its ownership structure. Margins were already so high as to leave no room for improvement and the store opening programme looked over-ambitious.

The institutional investors who bought the sales pitch of Moosoon's advisers BT Alex. Brown, or NatWest Securities, as it then was, public.

In the last year Monsoon has done nothing but disappoint. Its shares only ever rose above the issue price by a few pennies, giving shareholders no chance to book a profit. Monsoon's 12 year record of unhroken profits growth has gone already and the performance of the husiness is getting worse, not

hetter. Monsoon has compounded a generally ugty high street scene with its own mistakes. The result is that Monsoon's much vaunted margins have taken a pasting. The store opening programme continues, even though it is obvious that management has been distracted by over-expansion. The nuts and bolts of retailing, such as product quality and store presentation. seem to have been neglected.

Mr Simon thinks the market has been too hard on him, and bought back more stock last September, taking the total holding by directors to the maximum 75 per cent allowed. It would plainly make sense for him to buy the rest at these prices, but he'd be chased out of town if he even dared to attempt it. What is clear is that he should never have taken this company



Carphone Warehouse buys Tandy stores

OF Britain's best-known By NIGEL COPE electrical retail chains changed hands yesterday when the ... Tandy stores were sold to the Carphone Warehouse group for an undisclosed sum.

Carphone Warehouse, which is chaired by the former Guinness chairman Ernest Saunders, is buying the stores from InterTan, which owns the Radio Shack electrical stores in the United States.

Packaging offer The deal includes all 270 branches of Tandy in the UK and will give the enlarged group a total chain of 450 stores with annual sales of 350.

Charles Dunstone, founder of Carphone Warehouse, said the Tandy name will be retained and that there are oo

Associate City Editor

plans for stores closure or job

It will shift the product mix, however, to focus more on mobile phones while products such as karaoke machines may

be discontinued. Mr Dunstone said much of Tandy's recent growth had come from mobile phones which in the last quarter accounted for 35 per cent of its

Tandy recorded a loss of £4.1m in the year to June 1998 on sales of £103m. However, the group is expected to break even in the current year. Its same-store sales over Christmas were 17 per cent up on last

Carphooe Warehouse was founded 10 years ago and now has a chain of 180 UK stores plus another 139 in continental Europe. It recorded sales of £150m last year.

Commenting on the deal, Mr Dunstone said: "Tandy is a good business with an excellent infrastructure and a great deal of untapped potential. Following a rationalisation programme, the stores have been gaining market share for the last 16 months and have just enjoyed a very successful Christmas."

The 1,500 staff employed by Walsall-based Tandy will be retained, Carphone Warehouse

GETFROM A TO B HP Vectra VE Desktop 065707 Value priced, HP Netserver E50 05030A • Intel® Pentium® II Proces 333MHz • 4,2GB Hard Disk Ex.Vat Network Solutions. Hewlett-Packard has all the network solutions you need for future expansion. In fact, no one offers a wider, more flexible range of IT solutions. So keep your business moving in the right direction with HP. To buy now, or for more information CALL: 0990474 VISIT: www.buy.hp.co.uk/januarysale Contact your HP Connect Reseller

Fortsmouth jumps | Bonanza 10% on rival offers

SHARES IN Portsmouth & Sun- By Andrew Verity derland jumped 10 per cent yesterday after the group said it had received alternative offers since Friday's hostile bid for 25 per cent of the company from its rival Johnston Press.

The share price jumped from £15 to £16.50, valuing the company at £179.6m, against £129.0m on Thursday, the day before Johnston announced its offer. Johnston, which has already bought 14.99 per cent of the

group, is offering £16 a share to take its stake up to 24.99 per cent. On Friday it requested DTI consent to allow it to raise its stake beyond this. Charles Brims, chief execu-

tive of Portsmouth, yesterday held the door open to a higher bid from a rival group or venture capital company, saying all s would be considered.

We are not being a dog in the manger about this. If someone comes up with a higher offer we will look at it. But if we are going to sell, it will be at a much higher price than £16 a share."

Mr Brims declined to discuss details of negotiations. Likely bidders include Newsquest, the territory."

rival news company, and Trinity, the media group which recently the Mirror Group.

Three of Portsmouth's biggest shareholders yesterday took the opportunity to take profits. Shares in the group have sharply underperformed the FT All-Share index for most of the last five years. Phillips & Drew sold more

than half of its stake and hung on to 5.2 per cent, while Aberforth reduced its holding from 5.4 to 2.3 per cent. Mercury Asset Management also sold more than half its stake, leaving it with 2.3 per cent.

The outcome of the battle now lies in the hands of two families, the Storeys and the Cators, who, together with associates and directors, own 40 per cent of the group. Portsmouth claims to have their support.

Anthony De Larrinaga, a media analyst at WestLB Panmure, described Johnston as "like a dog to Portsmouth's lamp-post. It is marking out its

in hi-tech mergers

THE VALUE of mergers and acquisitions in the global computer, telecommunications and media sectors almost doubled in 1998 as consolidation among the world's hi-tech industries gathered pace, according to a report published today, writes Peter Thal Larsen.

Broadview, the M&A consultancy specialising in technology, calculates that the total value of hi-tech deals reached \$500bn last year – up 87 per cent from 1997, when it was \$262bn.

Mega-mergers between US telecom giants - including the merger of former Baby Bells SBC and Ameritech, as well as Bell Atlantic and GTE accounted for almost half of the value of hi-tech M&A deals around the world.

The report also shows a growing interest in technology in Europe, with the number of hitech flotations on this side of the Atlantic rising above the number in the US, During 1998, 155 technology companies floated on European exchanges, compared with 147 in the US.

Expanding Possibilities

Grenaskhill acquired 12.05 per c. ht. Waverley

77 useG

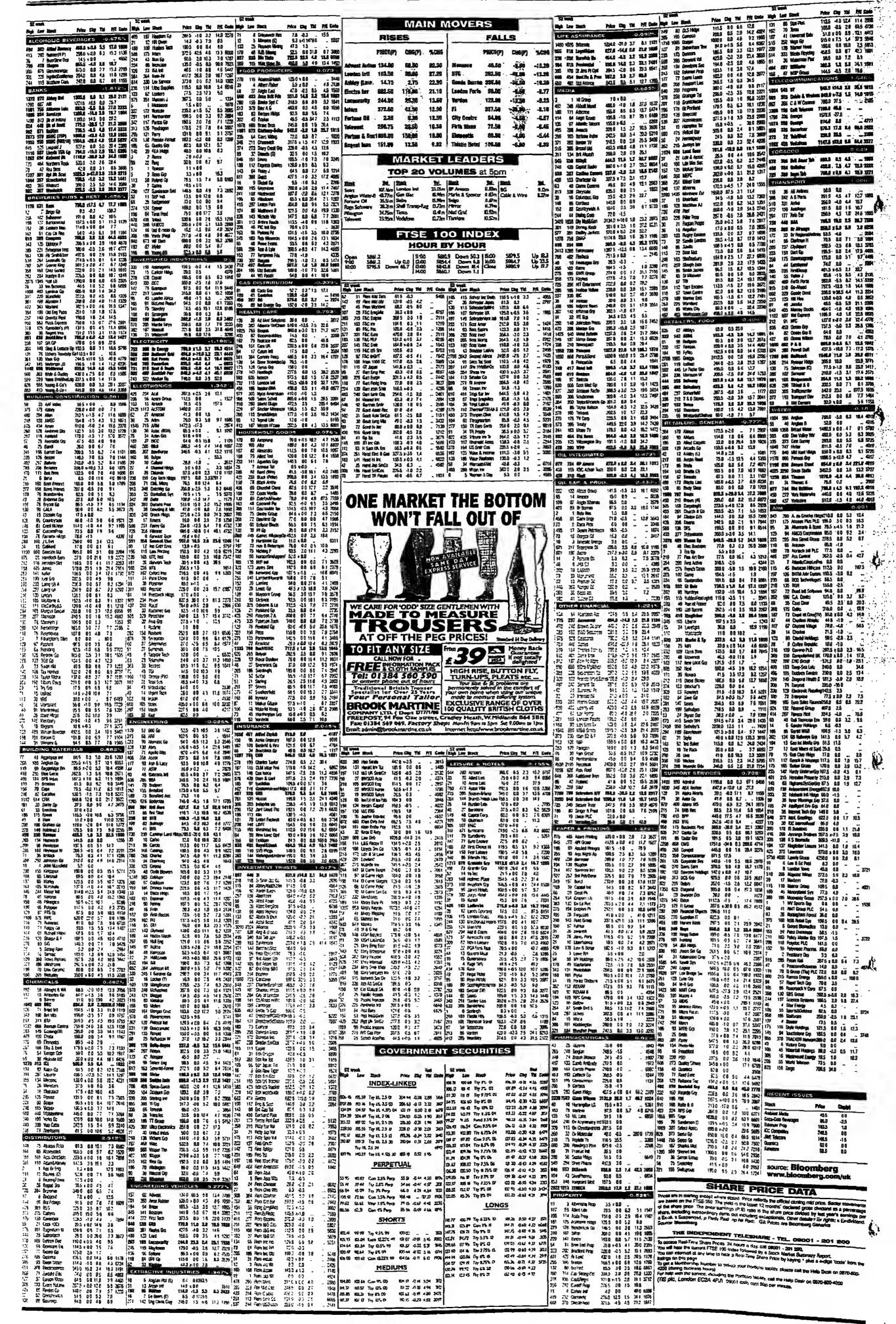
сте арра

or Fede

STATE OF THE PARTY OF

Ste-ling

after a stare of



וממיטועיין

Tuesday 26 January 1999

THE INDEPENDENT

Footsie swings as bid fever runs rampant

OLD FASHIONED takeover fever gripped the stock market. A steady flow of deals and rumours of more to come provided much of the action as Footsie, in a volatile session.

swung more than 150 points. Four groups admitted for the first time that they were involved in corporate action. several others were caught in hid speculation, and there were rumblings in some established takeover situations. Electra, the investment

trust, confirmed it had been approached by 3i group and its shares spiralled 119p to 682.5p; 3i firmed 14p to 631p. Adwest Automotives revealed it was involved in talks that could lead to a 150p a share offer and jumped 60.5p to 134p.

Condom maker L1G received an "unsolicited" approach, jumping 35p to 163.5p, and Gremlin, a computer games group, surged 26p to 100p after spotting possible predators.

HARD PRESSED Waverley Mining, where Ofex-traded Corporate Resolve is bidding for a stake, was the subject of three big trades, strengthening suspicions that a hid for full control is on the way

companies were active: one picked up 4.11 per cent and another 6.93 per cent to take its interest to 11.53 per cent. And obscure Patersons of Greenoakhill acquired 13.03 per cent. Waverley shares held at 6.5p.

And then, after the market closed, it became apparent that the rumoured Federal-Mogul strike at LucasVarity. the car components group, could be near. Lucas had contented itself with repeating an earlier statement that strategic discussions with various groups continued. Then Federal, the US group which took over T&N, said it was considering a 280p a share offer 320p a share bid from Chesa-straint of unease over China as GILTS INDEX: 116.77 -0.40

Vame

Akronic (I)

Mintred (1) Fj · Final (II) · Interim

amtha Group (F)
dansoon (I)

MARKET REPORT



PAIN

SHARE SPOTLIGHT share price, pence **ADWEST** AUTOMOTIVE 100 ~ 60 JEMAMIJASONDI

but Lucas refused to talk. Strong through the session, Lucas ended 29.5p up at 244p. Mirror, the newspaper

publisher where a boardroom split has appeared as one offer remains on the table and others bover, rose 9p to 207p; Trinity, a rejected suitor, hardened 22p to 449.5p.

Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers jumped 1500 to 1,650p after admitting it had received approaches following the smasb-and-grab bid from Johnston Press.

GRE, the insurer, added 9.25p to 378.5p as the market awaited the Royal & SunAlliance terms. Royal, seemingly on hopes that its not particularly popular offer will be topped, rose 19.25p to

Field, a packaging group, improved 21p to \$37.5p as a second US offer was signalled. The company has agreed a HSBC had the additional con-

Turnover (£)

82.709m (41.776m

13.232m (13.847m) 401m (460m) 66.14m (61.26m)

peake; now Shorewood Pack- well as Hong Kong's banks aging may counter.

House of Fraser jumped 8p to 92p with rumours persisting of a strike. Shami Ahmed, creator of the Joe Bloggs jeans empire, is circling with Chelsfield property group, which firmed 12.5p to 276p.

Securicor, as the rumour was revived it was in talks with BT over its Cellnet stake. gained 17.75p to 579.25p. Other stories included a

GEC bid for Philips' and Siemens' medical electronic operations, and of a BG assault oo Monument Oil & Gas, up 2.25p to 36p. The speculation also engulfed Telspec, an electronics group that advanced 11.5p to 69.5p, and Vaux, the hotelier on the verge of selling its breweries, 11p at 244.5p.

Servisair, the aircraft support group, was little changed at 216p after Framlington, one of its main shareholders, lifted its stake to 9.76 per cent, buying sbares above the 200p level of the Amey offer.

Sears was little changed at 356.5p as Philip Green's vehicle moved to 52.9 per cent of the shares but, underlining that not all bid stories end happily, the Lady in Leisure fitness group fell 27.5p to 95p against a 246.5p peak.

Footsie ended 19.7 points higher at 5,880.9, Supporting indices were mixed, with bid action helping the mid cap to a 6.1-point gain to 4,835.2 but the small cap relapsed a further 1.7 points to 2,091.4. Cable & Wireless Com-

munications gained 27.5p to year and £63m for this 780p as Morgan Stanley lifted its target price to 850p, but its against 185p last year. Cable & Wireless parent softened 7.5p to 849p although Henderson Crosthwaite calculated that even without Hong Kong Telecom the shares were worth 820p. Banks were weak. Although

a windfall tax on profits was

ruled out, the market offered

little support with Royal Bank

of Scotland down 47p to

83p (98p) 1.9p (72.2p)

5.8p (5.8p) 17.2p (-)

INDUSTRIAL METALS

1,025.5p and National Westminster Bank 38p to 1,110p. SEAQ VOLUME: 937.2m SEAQ TRADES: 68.123

06.04.99

23 04.99

@1.03.99

22.03.99

01.02.99 22.03.99

7p to 46.5p, a low.

INVESTMENT

Few happy returns for the unloved small caps

HG SMALLER COMPANIES INDEX 1999

BY NIGEL COPE Associate City Editor

and lost 43p to 1,606p.
Thistle Hotels fell 6p to

106.5p. Worries about its in-

volvement in London botels

emed to do the damage.

rail maintenance group, gained

23.5p to 570p. It met analysts on

Friday and is due to see fund

managers. Kwik Fit, the tyres

and exhausts chain, rose 26.5p

to 417.5p with Warburg Dillon

Read auggesting 500p. Rage Software improved a

further 2.5p (after 4p) to 14.75p

with Seaq putting turnover at

28.6 million shares. The com-

pany is negotiating with Mi-

crosoft about distributing its

Internet interest was back,

with InterX, the former Ideal

Hardware, launching a new

Internet service and gaining

42.5p to 372.5p. Geo Interac-

tive, with the start of an e-mail

service, was up 11.5p to 51.5p.

On-Line gained 30p to 127.5p.

STOCKBROKER Redmayne

Bentley has put the shares

of Singer & Friedlander,

one of the few London

merchant banks not in

The shares bave

nnderperformed both

Schroders and Close

and its main rivals.

Brothers, two other UK-

owned investment banks,

Redmayne is shooting for

profits of £58.6m for last

year. The shares are 101p

up 2.75p to 14,75p in brisk

trading, was said to be the tar-

get of some recovery funds

and Monsoon, the fashion

chain, was in tatters as it pro-

duced its first profits fall for 13

years. The shares, floated at

198p less than a year ago, fell

huy list.

foreign ownership, on its

Struggling Laura Ashley,

latest football game.

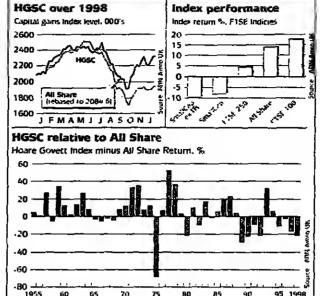
Jarvis, the construction and

ANYONE WHO invested in smaller companies last year will know only too well bow badly they performed compared to the gung-ho FTSE 100 con-

The latest Hoare Govett index of smaller companies, published yesterday, underlines the point. Its study shows that in 1998 the return on its smaller companies index was the seventh-worst since 1955. The relative return, compared to the All-Share, was the third worst on record.

Hoare Govett's smaller companies index measures the performance of the lowest tenth by market capitalisation of the main UK equity market, excluding AIM stocks. The cutoff market value for the index is £585m, although the average size is much smaller at just

These stocks have been the great unloved in 1998, just as they were in 1997, and the pattern which emerged last year was also similar to that in the previous year. Smaller companies began the year well; indeed, during the early months of 1998 they outperformed their larger cousins. By May, the return on the HGSC Index was 4 percentage points ahead of the All Share.



But then it all began to go borribly wrong. By the year's end the smaller companies had produced a negative return for the year - of minus 4 per cent - coming in 17.8 per cent below

the return for the All Share. The critical period was a disastrous third quarter. During the July to September period when the stock market travail was at its worst, smaller companies bore the brunt.

plunged by 21.8 per cent compared with a 12.5 per cent correction in the FTSE 100.

The process was another demonstration of the double whammy which often strikes the smaller companies: they seem to miss out on the euphoria that has fuelled the Footsie's charge, but when any correction comes. they get hit just as badly.

large caps and small caps has emerged, and how marked its has become. Between 1955 and 1988 the annual return on smaller companies was higher than the All-Share for all bar a handful of years. Their compound return was on average 6 per cent better than the All-Share. However, since 1988 they have only outperformed in three years, and the most recent of those was back in

The weighting of particular stock market sectors has been an important factor. The soaraway sectors of telecoms, banking and pharmaceuticals have represented a small fraction of smaller companies. But the unloved sectors of diversified industrials. household goods and textiles are all beavily represented.

The outlook, sadly, is rather depressing. According to ABN, although smaller companies look cheap with a pre ratio of 12 compared to an average of 20 for the All-Share, they could become cheaper still. That is likely to lead to more public-private

It may be that on fundamentals the smaller stocks are valued correctly and their larger brethren have lost touch with reality But until a little steam is taken out of the Foot-The record shows just how sie, ABN says, the smaller

Lonrho shines in precious metals

LONRHO YESTERDAY underlined its transformation from conglomerate to mining group by announcing an acquisition drive to boost its precious metals business. The company said it would rename itself Lonmin, ditching its historic name to re-

flect the new focus on mining. The rump of the late Tiny Rowland's empire is looking at a number of purchases to expand its gold and platinum interests. The chairman, Sir John Craven, said: "We have brought down debt and are now well placed financially to contemplate merger and acquisition

By Francesco Guerrera

activity." Sir John did not comment oo areas of expansion, but analysts said a number of South African platinum mines were likely to be on Lonrho's hit list.

The company beat City expectations in its first results since shedding more than £1bn of non-mining businesses. Pretax profits for the year rose by 10 per cent to £110m on turnover down by 13 per cent at £401m. Analysts bad expected a profit of between £63m and more governments forced car £102m. The shares soured 5 per makers to fit converters. At the tures, which weakened

falling victim to profit-taking. plies 74 per cent of the world's They closed unchanged at 315p. Lonrho's performance was

driven by a doubling of profits in palladium operations, which benefited from a 70 per cent rise in the metal's price in the second half of 1998. Palladium, a key component of car exhaust catalytic converters, benefited from a combination of higher

demand and a supply shortage. It is estimated that demand for palladium rose by 37 per cent in the past 12 months as cent in early trading before same time Russia, which sup-

palladium, suspended exports of the metal.

Analysts said the buoyant palladium market was set to continue this year. Lonrho will also benefit from its minority stake in the Ghanaian gold producer, Asbanti Goldfields.

Mark Burridge, mining analvst at Merrill Lynch, said the shares, on 7.5 times 1999 earnings, looked cheap. But he cautioned that the discount was partly justified by the company's large share of joint ven-Lonrho's hold on its casb flow.

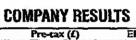
> 120 stores nationwide For nearest store details Freephone **0800**

316 2 317

Direct order line Freephone

0800 771107

II Mon-Fri 8.30am-8pm, Sat Sam-Spm Sun 10ton-4pm



5.755m (5.069m)

2.358m (2.529m) 84m (196m) 11.82m (14.97m)

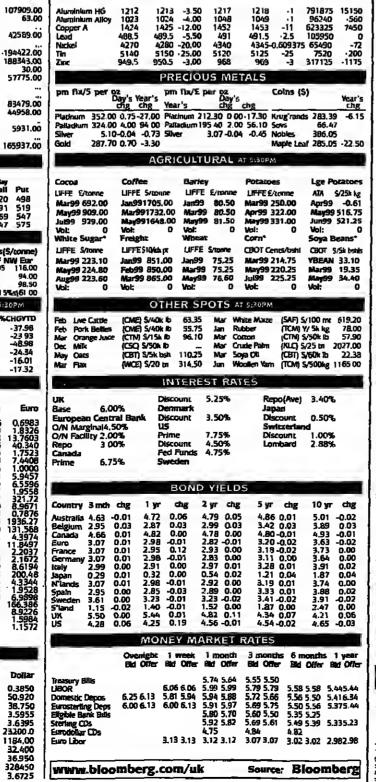
		LIF	FE FINAL	ICIAL F	UTURE	5	
ontract			Settlement	High	Love	Est floor	Open
ang Gilt		Mar-99	120.04	120.85	119.90	31188.00	107909.00
Yr Gill		Mar-99	109 66				63.00
Serman Bun	d	Mar-99	117.68				
talian Bond		May-99	115 30	115.55	175.22	7446.00	42589.00
apan Govt E 3 Mrth Sterlin		Mar-99 Mar-98	130.30 94.42	130.30 94.50	130.12 94.41	857.00 26344.00	194422.00
) MUI JUSTIII	rg.	Mai-36	94.72	94.85	94.71	46771.00	188343.00
Mth Euribo	or	Feb-99	96.99	54.05	3-1.71	-10171.00	30.00
		Mar - 99	97.03	97.05	97.03	13260.00	57775.00
		Apr-99	-0.61				
Mrh Euroy		Mar-99	99.37				
Mth Euros	Wiss	Mar-99	98.71	98.76	98.70	8485.00	83479.00
Man Euro I	Change	Apr 99 Feb-99	98.60 96.99	98.65 96.99	98.59 96.98	6085.00 71.00	44958.00
indi Faio i	100	Mai -99	97.03	97.05	97.03	12690.00	5931.00
		Apr-99	97.10	2			
TSE 100		Mar-99	5905.00	5925.00	5755.00	23333.00	165937.00
		LIFEE	CTCE 40	O INTER	V ODT	ON	
		1000	FTSE 10	O INDE	K OP II	ON	_
ettlement P		80.90					
	ati kec	Vol Por	Imp Vol	Call Put	Call	Put Ca	
	62 34	252		255 358	344	434 42	
	41 33	281		233 386	319	461 39	
900 1	21 33		30	211 414	301	493 36	9 547
	01 32	340	29	189 443	282	524 34	
			ENERG	Y AT 5:30	PM .		
rent Crude	:(5/bar	rei)Gas i	oii(S/tonne)		ide(5/barn	el) Products	(S/tonne)
F / ser /	The Mr	d noc a	Close Chy Vo 96.25-1.25 49	NYM L	Last Chg	Spot CIF	NW Eur
ስ ስሌ በ	781423	7 Feb	96.25-1.25 49	83 Feb	11.81 0.00	Gaspline 9	5 16.00
p- 0,90 0	.26 743	7 Mar	97.50-1.00 24	56 Mar	12.41 -0.29		94.00
lay 11 09-0	21 158	3 Apr	99,25-0.75 9		12.41 -0.27		98.50
-				May	12.46 -0.29	Fuel Oil (3	5%±161 00
GOL	DMA	N SAC	CHS COM	MODITY	Y INDIC	ES AT 5	:30PM
	BASE I		LAST	CHG	%CHG		SCHGYTD
rciex	1970=		133.50	-1.80	-1.33	215.26 231.23	- 37.98 -23 93
pergy nergy	1970= 1983=		175.89 43.81	-1.03 -1.13	-0.58 -2.51	85.86	-48.98
nd Metals	1977=		127.70	0.00	0.00	168.79	-24.34
rvescock	1970=		160 44	-1.08	-0.67	191.03	-16.01
rec Mecals	1973=		383.25	2.59	0.68	463.54	-17.32
		FOR	EIGN EX	HANGE	RATE	۹.	
	_	, OIL					
	5 terfin			Dolla		4 2 ma-re	E
ountry	Spc	it 1 mc	anth 3 mont	th Spo	c i mont	h 3 month	Euro
ĸ	1.000	IO.		0.603	4 0.603	9 0.6046	0.6983
ustraha	1.000 2.624	Š 2.6	227 2.619	0.603 7 1.583	7 1.583	9 1.5839	0,6983 1.8326 13.7603
uraria.	19.71 57.78	0 19.	.691 19.66 .649 57.40	2 11.89	3 11.89	1 11.888	13.7603
efgium	57.78	2 57.	.649 57.40 6078 2.504	34.86		4 34,706	40.340
anada enmark	2.509		078 2.504 .637 10.60	1.514. 13 6.430	0 6.423	5 1.5145 5 6.4108	1.7523 7.4408
nio enument	10.65 1.432		JRK 1.421	/ 1.00/.	2 1.158	9 1.1626	1,0000
nland	8.516	5 8 4	969 8.460	16 5 1 3 84	9 5.131	3 5.1153	1.0000 5.9457
ance	9,39	69.	374 9.33	4 5.669 0 1.690 1 278.0	5 5.661	0 5.6434	6.5596 1.9558 321.72
ermany	2.801	5 2.7	950 2.783 2.75 466.6	D 1.690	4 1.687	9 1.6827	1.9558
reece	460.7	> 46	775 <i>u</i> nde	1 278.0. 4 7.749	2 279.4 0 7.758	6 282.12 0 7.7840	321.72 8.9671
	12.84 1.128 2773.	រំ ដែ	846 12.87 255 1.120	7 0.580	7 1.471	2 1.4758	0.7876
ong nong	2773.	5 276	57.1	2 1673.:	5 1671.	0 1665,8	1936.27
eland	188.4	2 18	756 1R50	113.70	113.2		131,568
eland Hy pan		5 6.2	932 .	3.8000 10.2400	D 3.800	>	4.3974
eland Hy pan	6,297		403 3135	7 1 00.2400	7 1901	8 1,8959	11.8497
eland siy pan alaysia	188.4 6.297 16.97	č 9.		1 0534	7 1.901 0 1.873 5 7.470	3 1.8738	2.2037 2.1672
eland aly pan alaysia	6.297 16.97 3.156	Š 3.1	020 3.099			E 7 TAÃA	0 6104
eland siy pan alaysia	6.297 16.97 3.156 13.103 12.34	5 3.1 8 3.1 4 12.	020 3.099 370 12.40	5 7.448	5 7.470	טעטב.יי כ	8.6194
eland ally pan alaysia exico etherlands ew Zealand orway	3.156 3.103 12.34	5 3.1 8 3.1 4 12. 6 286	493 3.135 020 3.099 370 12.40 5.50 285.2	7.448 7 173.28	5 7.470 8 17 <u>3.</u> 0	2 172.48	200.48
eland aly pan alaysia enco etherlands etw Zealand orway ortugal eudi Arabia	3.156 13.103 12.34 287.1 6.207	5 3.1 8 3.1 4 12. 6 286 3 6.2	020 3.099 370 12.40 5.50 285.2 114 6.226	7 173.28 4 3.7456	9 3.731	1 3.7546	200.48
eland ally pan alaysia euco euco euce euco euca euco euco euco euco euco euco euco euco	3.156 13.103 12.34 287.1 6.207	5 3.1 8 3.1 4 12. 6 286 3 6.2	5.50 285.2 114 6.726		5 1.683 6 6.099	1 3.7646 9 1.6778 9 6.2108	200.48 4.3344 1.9528
ong Kong eland alay ipan alaysia ésico etherlands etw Zealand orway ortugal kudi Arabia ingapore such Africa	3.156 13.103 12.34 287.1 6.207	5 3.1 8 3.1 4 12. 6 286 3 6.2	020 3.099 370 12.40 5.50 285.2 114 6.226 883 2.775 006 10.272	0 1.6879 3 6.0403 6 143.81	5 1.683 3 6.099 1 143.5	1 3.7646 9 1.6778 9 6.2108	200.48 4.3344 1.9528
eland ally pan alaysia euco euco euce euco euca euco euco euco euco euco euco euco euco	3.156 13.103 12.34 287.1 6.207 2.796 10.010 238.3	5 3.1 8 3.1 4 12. 6 286 3 6.2 6 2.7 2 10.1 3 23:	006 10,272 7.78 236.7 751 12.70	0 1.6879 3 6.0403 6 143.81	5 1.683 3 6.099 1 143.5	1 3.7646 9 1.6778 9 6.2108	200.48 4.3344 1.9528
eland alaysia euco etherlands ew Zeajand orway ortugal kudi Arabia ngapore auch Africa aun weden wiczerland	3.156 13.103 12.34 287.1 6.207 2.796 10.010 238.3 12.77 2,289	5 3.1 8 3.1 6 284 3 6.2 6 2.7 2 10.1 3 12.3 1 2.2	006 10.272 7.78 236.7	0 1.6875 3 6.040 6 143.81 1 7.7105 3 1.381	5 1.683 3 6.099 1 143.5 5 7.700 2 1.376	1 3.7646 9 1.6778 9 6.2108	200.48 4.3344 1.9528 6.9898 166.386 8.9226 1.5984
eland idiy pan alaysia euco etherlands ew Zealand orway errugal errugal egapore euch Africa iain weden witzerland	3.156 13.103 12.34 287.1 6.207 2.796 10.010 238.3	5 3.1 8 3.1 6 284 3 6.2 6 2.7 2 10.1 3 12.3 1 2.2	006 10,272 7.78 236.7 751 12.70	0 1.6879 3 6.0403 6 143.81	5 1.683 3 6.099 1 143.5 5 7.700 2 1.376	1 3.7646 9 1.6778 9 6.2108	200.48 4.3344 1.9528
eland ily pan alaysia euco etherlands ecceptands orway rrugal euci Arabia ngapore euch Africa iain weden viczerland	3.156 13.103 12.34 287.1 6.207 2.796 10.010 238.3 12.77 2,289	5 3.1 8 3.1 6 284 3 6.2 6 2.7 2 10.1 3 12.3 1 2.2	006 10,272 7.78 236.7 751 12.70	0 1.6875 3 6.040 6 143.81 1 7.7105 3 1.381	5 1.683 3 6.099 1 143.5 5 7.700 2 1.376	1 3.7646 9 1.6778 9 6.2108	200.48 4.3344 1.9528 6.9898 166.386 8.9226 1.5984
eland alaysia eaco etherlands ew Zealand orway rrugal kudi Arabia ngapore such Africa aain weden viczerland	3.156 13.103 12.34 287.1 6.207 2.796 10.010 238.3 12.77 2,289	5 3.1 8 3.1 4 12. 6 284 6 2.7 2 10.1 2 23 8 12. 2 2	7006 10,273 7,78 236.7 751 12,70 798 2,263	3 7,743 0 1,687 3 6,040 6 143,81 1 7,710 3 1,381 1,000 0	3.731 5 1.583 3 6.099 1 143.5 5 7.700 2 1.376	1 3.7646 9 1.6778 9 6.2108	200.48 4.3344 1.9528 6.9898 166.386 8.9226
eland alaysia euco etherlands ew Zeajand orway ortugal kudi Arabia ngapore auch Africa aun weden wiczerland	3.156 13.103 12.34 287.1 6.207 2.796 10.010 238.3 12.77 2,289	5 3.1 8 3.1 4 12. 6 284 6 2.7 2 10.1 2 23 8 12. 2 2	006 10,272 7.78 236.7 751 12.70	3 7,743 0 1,687 3 6,040 6 143,81 1 7,710 3 1,381 1,000 0	3.731 5 1.583 3 6.099 1 143.5 5 7.700 2 1.376	1 3.7646 9 1.6778 9 6.2108	200.48 4.3344 1.9528 6.9898 166.386 8.9226 1.5984

1.0000 Ornan 1.7800 Pakistan 8.2784 Phillipines 31.358 Poland 3.4147 Catar 2360.0 Russia 216.43 South Korea 42.500 Talwan 9313.0 Thalland 0.3029 Turkey 85.500 UAE

1.6573

13.719 51.967 5.6590

0.6380 84.387 64.218 5.9586 6.0316 38448.2 1962.2 53.695 61.235 544323 6.0862



www.bloomberg.com/uk

Source: Bloomberg



we're on **your** side

MO Depositionar nor No need to save APR Types Regard to good t

Convert 139 78 361 46 5 40 0 93 5 00 High latence 57 50 61 17 - 201 7 36 5 00 Charity Final Charit	No. 2016 Recomptification 171	## 45.00 ## 49.00 0.70 1.258 3.00 ## 12.10 1.258 3.00 ## 12.10 1.258 3.00 ## 12.10 1.258 3.00 ## 12.10 1.258 3.00 ## 12.10 1.258 3.00 ## 12.10 1.258 3.00 ## 10.00 ##	89 06 4 011 7 200 5.00 Gebal for 33 17 0 35.30 7 40 0.00 5.00 and 5 0.00 and
Packer Common State Common Sta	House Hous	Acc 106 107 11 107 108	BigSoud let hold Acc 112.70 0.30 5.75 0.50 Big
Destination Acc, 1294 13 FC - 0.06 2 54 5 00	EasternEsterpress	### No. 2011 182 50 1768 0.0 0.0 2.29 5.25 ### No. 2011 182 50 1768 0.0 0.0 2.29 5.25 ### No. 2011 182 50 1768 0.0 1.0 2.39 6.00 ### No. 2011 182 50 1.0 ###	April
Abbey Oak Tract Measurers Abbey Oak	Rail Samuel Except Renhandia Trest European Acc 34 10 358 80 7-50 1.33 1.25 Magra Acc 31.03 2.23 -0.20 0.00 3.25 Marris America Cas 44.00 44.00 -2.30 0.34 3.25 Perdicit Acc 47.48 44.05 -1.47 2.48 3.25 Perdicit Acc 47.48 44.05 -1.47 2.48 3.25 Perdicit Acc 47.48 45.55 -1.47 2.48 3.25	A Acc	187.79 - 3.89 1 8-78.80 10 10 1237 5.00 10 1237 33.3 5.50 1237 5.23 5.50 1237 5.74.9 4.23 3.50 0.00 12327 - 7.23 0.00 0.00 12327 - 7.23 0.00 0.00 12327 - 7.23 0.00 0.00 12327 - 7.23 0.00 0.00 12327 - 7.23 0.00 0.00 12327 - 7.23 0.00 0.00 12327 5.24 5.25 123 5.25 1
Extra principal 155 of 166 00 1-20 0-73 55 of 155 of	MIDWEEK MONEY - EVERY WEDNESDAY REVIEW YOUR MONEY - EVERY SATURDAY PERSONAL FINANCE - EVERY	Transfer (28.5 4.5 2.6 2.6 2.6 4.5) The property of the prope	Section Sect
## Gend inclume	SUNDAY - WITH SPORT AND BUSINESS ### THE INDEPENDENT THE INDEPENDENT THE INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY Carrier C	Cong Diagram Cong	Section Sect
Affairance & Luicoster Capital Growth 75 50 Income 56 40 Income 56 50 Income 56 40	International distribution of the property of	35 37 32 32 33 35 37 32 34 35 35 35 35 35 35 35	22.24 - 0.37 1.79 5.26 Sent Alpha Acc 297.77 (Nam) 4.22 0.00 5.00 Sent Alpha Acc 27.72 (Nam) 4.22 0.00 5.00 Sent Alpha Acc 27.22 (Nam) 4.22 0.00 5.00 Sent Alpha Acc 27.22 (Nam) 4.22 0.00 5.00 Sent Alpha Acc 172.86 (Nat) 15 0.00 5.00 Sent Alpha Acc 172.86 (Nat) 3.15 0.00 Sent Alpha Acc 172.86 (Nat) 3.15 0.00 Sent Alpha Acc 17
Euron Smother Cos 125 50 144 20 115 0.27 500 Euron Specializar 125 00 125 500 120 0 125 500 125 500 120 0 125 500 125 500 120 0 125 500 125 500 125 500 120 0 125 50	Ecology 15 fe 13 fe 045 032 510 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1		April Apri
Number Content Funds III Content Con	Manufacture	Friedrick Co. 20 5 5 5 5 5 5 8 0.82 d 01 0 00 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	137 - 66 1 30 5 525
Telegraph Tele	Blocat Growth 9447 9447 955 031 000 Cash Acc 16550 16550 010 661 000 ArtaGmi rightwittental Bond 5151 5181 -006 430 000 Emerging Markets 8687 9341 147 030 575 European Bonat Indoor 3625 7875 -071 014 000 Emergh Markets Acc 0010 0473 150 030 575 European	MMARSAC 76:95 02:31 -2:85 000 575 Europe for 133:45 152 (Geowth 209:62 130:18 -1:35 0.029 575 Europe for 133:45 152 (GeoffAcc 310:70 131:32 -1:35 0.029 575 Europe M Toct 129:33 137	29 245 0299 200 Garcone 100 10 194,00 13.10 000 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 150 1
Section 1.5 (a) 1.6 (b) 1.7 (c) 2.7	Section Sect	Germanz 203 65 217 82 40 50 073 5.55 mod 54 15 577 at 24 050 073 5.55 mod 54 15 577 at 24 050 073 5.55 mod 54 15 577 at 25 073 51 5.55 mod 54 15 66 15 66 13 40 73 31 5.55 55 mod 56 56 66 13 40 73 31 5.55 55 mod 56 56 66 13 40 73 31 5.55 55 mod 56 56 66 13 40 73 31 5.55 56 mod 56 15 15 56 15 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	85 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

cricket: Engla

with the wind the win manily and de unide Taklosa despos ाः अक्षाः **१८ ११५** the state of the

and the second Test Test muzined the wante and ton in the Pones of pin of nat-still able

still able
to re com. To
the has
to start
to not? You start
I not it hasn't
I got
wouldn't
I not
wer he ' 'v cannet' end un

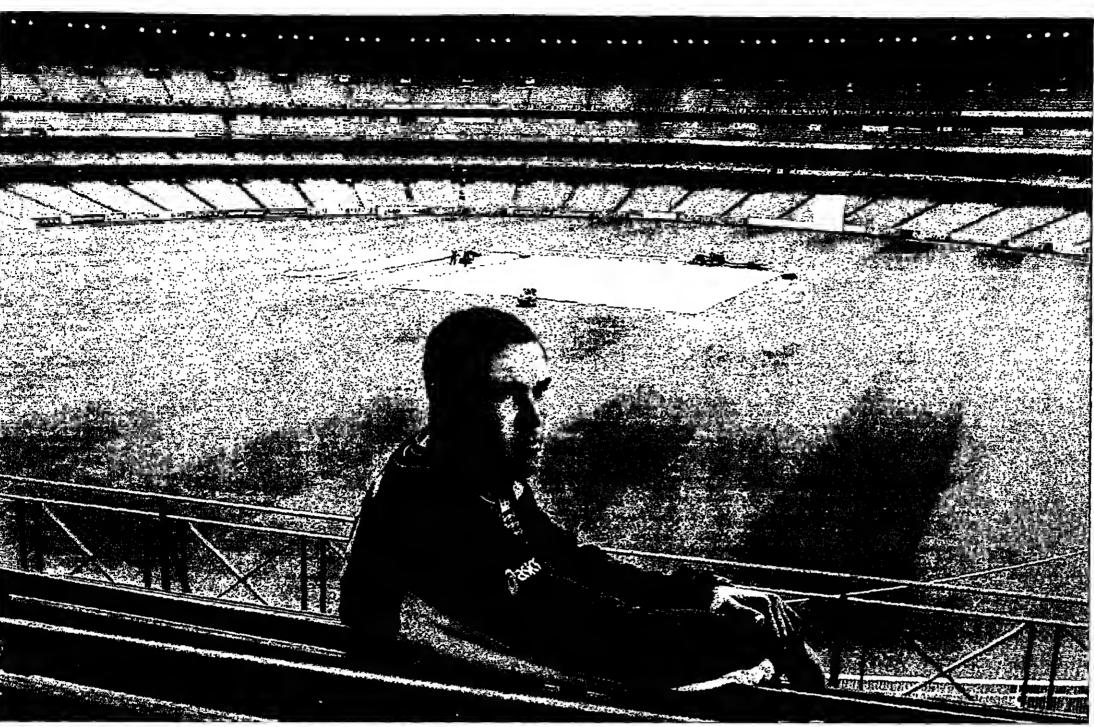
Husass Husass Husass

Return the state of the state o

LE INDEPENDENT

SPORT

Cricket: England's bright young talent struggles to make his mark as injuries and lack of confidence take their toll



Ben Hollioake assumes the role of spectator at the Melbourne Cricket Ground: 'Sometimes, because you did so well early on, the public thinks that's what you should achieve every time'

Hollioake feels the hard knocks

BEN HOLLIOAKE was asked what he BY STEPHEN BRENKLEY had learned on the tour of Australia. His answer came certainly and quickly and despite the smile with which it was delivered, the underlying sadness was unmistakable, "I lave learned I don't want to happen to me again what's happened to me on this tour," he said.

He left England in October still as the brightest of hright young things and three months on he knew he was in serious danger of returning to England as the forgotten man. He played in none of the Test matches and after six games in the one-day series he remained the only one of England's squad of 16 not to have played. Selection in the seventh was possible hut he was not exactly gathering extra supplies of kit whitener in preparation for the

Such is Hollioake's depth of natural assurance that he was still able to remember the lines more commonly associated with him. "To some degree the confidence has taken a knock," he said. "You start to think, 'Am I good enough', not 'I ogn good enough', hut it hasn't ken such a knock that if I got icked for the next game I wouldn't hack myself to get a hundred."

So he might, but whatever he achieves in the remainder of the Carlton & United series he cannot conceal the truth that his first senior tour has been an unwelcome and unexpected experience, and that not guable that the selectors, baving everything will come easily. He sustained an injury early on in Australia

in Adelaide

and by the time he recovered, even a losing team was difficult to break

What opportunities he had he failed to grasp. In the notorious defeat in Hobart by Australia A he was dismissed on a flat pitch by an occasional bowler, Matthew Elliott. Subsequently he was confronted with the criticism of David Graveney, the tour manager and chairman of the England selectors.

Graveney might have appeared slightly harsh in observing that Hollioake could not continue to live on two performances a long time ago (the 63 he made on his international debut against Australia and the 98 he made in the Benson and Hedges Cup final) hut he was perhaps attempting a stab at psy-

Hollioake defended himself rohustly. He said his one-day county form had been sound last summer and that his bowling in all forms of cricket had been consistently good. But he must know, if he has developed the capacity to examine his own performances, that he has to do more to convince the selectors now. Making a maiden first-class hundred for Surrey would be a

It is probable that Hollioake is a big-game player and it is at least arpicked him at the age of 19, should simply have kept faith with him. As chest-on bowling technique, too,

it is, he has played only three Tests does not allow much margin for and six one-day internationals since he was initially selected in both forms of the game in 1997, and he could easily have trebled both num-

Hollioake's relaxed approach has also raised concerns, but presumably the selectors knew his character before they dallied with his potential. "It's something that I'm always going to be up against," he said. But the management knows that when it's time to practise. I practise

as hard as anyone. "Having said that, I know I'm not the best netter in the world. You've got to have nets to keep in touch but there have certainly been times this tour when I've had a bit of nettitis. Even when I'm in my best form on the park it is still bard work in the

He lifted up his shirt to reveal a bruise on his chest inflicted in the nets while batting. It probably would not have happened in the middle, but the middle is somewhere that has become a foreign

Hollioake is an instinctive cricketer, which is what England need. The trouble with that, allied to a reluctance for nets, is that technical faults which occur are not so easily removed. There was a time last son, when Hollioake was called up to the England squad, that the management was said to be somewhat astonished at the way his batting had gained looseness. His

error if he is to make effective use

England have already invested too much in him to let him be wasted. What they have to decide is whether to ensure he accrues some county form (and that can be meaningless) or select him regardless, which will serve a purpose only if they keep on picking him and have got it right.

Hollioake is an extremely affable fellow and if he has a high opinion of his ability, that is as it should be. Others have encouraged him in this regard. He did not score that resplendent half-century against the Aussies on a lovely early summer at Lord's by having self-doubt.

"Sometimes, because you did so well early on, the public thinks that is what you should achieve every time. Maybe that's what I thought I should every achieve every time. "I don't know what my form is like

because I haven't played. But you never know what can happen. I may not play any of the games but then somebody gets injured and I could be the player of the final."

Mark Taylor, the captain of Australia, has been named Australian of the Year. The award comes amid speculation that Taylor is about to retire from the game. He admitted after receiving the highest honour available that possible retirement was weighing heavily on his mind. "I just want to enjoy the next two days with my family," he said.



Happier days: Ben Hollioake hits out on his way to 63 against

The General' in mood for fight

BY STEPHEN BRENKLEY

Œ IS known as The General. This is because when Arjuna Ranatunga leads Sri Lanka he struts about as if he was Napoleon. Napoleon was not a diplomat either.

Thus, on the eve of his appearance before the match referee, Peter Van Der Merwe, two days after an apparent series of breaches of the game's code of conduct. Ranatunga effectively told everyone where they could shove it.

A different fellow, with a more uncertain view of himself and his place in the game, might have kept sileot until after the hearing. But Ranatunga could not resist speaking to the television station in Adelaide the day before he met Van Der Merwe.

He steadfastly refused to apologise or to express regrets for his unprecedented behaviour on Saturday towards an umpire he clearly did not respect so much as scorn. "I feel I was standing by a colleague of mine, who is the best bowler Sri Lanka has produced." he said. His manager, Ranjit Fernando, could hardly have acted with more decorum.

Ranatunga played the key role in Saturday's match at Adelaide Oval between England and Sri Lanka. It was Muttiah Muralitharan, the offspinner, who was no-halled for throwing, hut it was Ranatunga who waded into battle on his behalf.

He argued with the umpire, Ross Emerson, lecturing him before leading his players to the perimeter of the pitch for 15 minutes while negotiations about continuing the match took place.

When play resumed he put Mu-ralitharan on at Emerson's end and insisted the umpire stand where Ranatunga wanted by constantly scratching a line in the soil. Emerson said at one point: "I'm the umpoint was a patent exaggeration.

Ranatunga then took gamesmanship to its brink to mastermind the defeat of England with a wicket and two balls to spare. He looked as unruffled as ever as he spoke in his hotel room to Channel 7. The people who appointed umpires, he said, should appoint the people to do a job.

There had been no intention of staging a walk-off, he insisted, which is not what it looked like to anybody watching. "We never wanted to stop the game, that's for sure."

Only snatches of the interview were shown and the full version will go out on Sunday, when Ranatunga will have been dealt with. This is probably just as well since he was clearly in no mood for contrition.

Ranatunga, who has led Sri Lanka in more than 170 one-day internationals and wields much broader power than that of captain, said it was impossible to go back to the way things were. Sri Lanka may as well go back to playing friendlies if they changed their style.

Arguments of a similar conciliatory nature submitted to Van Der Merwe may not exactly constitute a plea for leniency. But Ranatunga, ever smiling, is serious about this and clearly wanted to go down fighting for Murali. As good generals do. ■ Ricky Ponting, the Australian batsman, has appeared before the Australian Cricket Board to face disciplinary action for being involved in a drunken brawl in a Sydney bar. Ponting was given a suspended fine of A\$5000 (£2.000) and banned for another game in addition to the twomatches he has already missed.

Not all the best rugby is played at Twickenham

Nations than with the union's wish

to set up a new competition involv-

ing the southern hemisphere

nations. This competition would

include England and, preferably,

France as well but exclude Italy and

I was encouraged that Rea's

view was more or less the same as

WE'RE GIVING England 48 hours to come back in," a colleague on the sports desk of this paper said to me week ago when I was fretting to him on the telephone about whether I had sufficiently covered the stirring events of the day.

In the event, the rover's return took rather less time, nearer 24 hours. It was celebrated by Bill Beaumont and Brian Baister of the Rugby Football Union, and Allan Hosie of the Five Nations committee, over pints of beer in the Glasgow pub (or bar, for Glasgow does not possess what I would call proper pubs) Drum and Monkey, which seems an appropriate name somehow in the circumstances.

Baister and the RFU's "chief executive", Francis Baron, remind



ALAN Watkins

ting on the wall in the rhyme: Fly away Brian, fly away Frank; Come back Brian, come back Frank.

They remind me also of George Brown, the Labour cabinet ministe: of the 1960s. Brown was forever me of the two little dickie birds sit- threatening to resign and being the real reason why the RFU's rep- suits them to do so. But they have

dissuaded from taking this course. hut would be persuaded to return to the fold in ... well, in about the time it takes for the RFU to restore England to the Five Nations' Cham-

There came a point, however, when Brown resigned over the relatively trivial matter of a lack of consultation with him about the closing of the banks during a financial crisis. And this time his resignation was accepted. That was the end of George Brown.

I am not predicting that the same thing is going to happen to England, but there is clearly a danger of it happening. In the Independent on Sunday

mine, which I expressed here last week: that the evidence is that New Zealand, Australia and South Africa are quite happy with their present arrangements, though they may undertake more (in my opinion, two days ago, Chris Rea wrote that too many) European tours when it

the Celtic nations.

resentatives were behaving as they no wish to enter into any permanent Every so often he would flounce out were had less to do with the relationship with England; even apportionment of Sky monies. less so if France exclude themselves French television arrangements or the eotry of Italy into the Five

The evidence, again, is that the French have an affectionate regard for the Five (soon to be Six) Nations, and have no wish to leave home to take up with new partners who may possess all kinds of strange ways. Not even the most tunnelvisioned England supporter would maintain that, season in and season out, England have been the superior team to France over the past

decade or so. Certainly the English revival of the 1980s was a triumph for players and managers: for Geoff Cooke, Jack Rowell, Will Carling and Brian Moore, to name only a few. But times change. Moore is a solicitor

be rich) Carling is a discredited figure, largely through his own fault. Rowell is associated with Bristol, Cooke is out of a job or, perhaps, is between johs. For it looks as if he will join Bath after what must have been an unsettling time for him at

and a broadcaster. Poor (or it may

True, England beat South Africa. But then, Waies very nearly beat them, too. As colleagues have written many times already, it looks like being the most open Five Nations for years. Graham Henry, the Welsh coach, still needs to find two wings of international class (for Gareth Thomas is injured), a loose-head prop and, perhaps, a second row partner for Craig Quinnell.

The kindest thing to say about Scotland is that they may sur-

prise us yet. On current form. it looks as if the good-value bet is Ireland. Admittedly Dick Best's firstchoice London Irish have, at most, only half a dozen Irish players in the side. Even so, Conor O'Shea, Justin Bishop, Niall Woods and Malcolm O'Kelly will be even better players this season than they were hefore.

And if Ulster win the European Cup at Dublin on Saturday, Irish confidence will be trebled. Jonathan Bell and Rob Henderson (if fit) are not going to be frightened by the Scott Gibba of this world. David Humphreys at last looks like fulfilling his promise and potential.

Perhaps the RFU should accept for the time being that not all the best rugby in the British Isles is played at Twickenham

Duval crowned the new 'Mr 59'

American tour bows to the historic round of the iceman who caught fire in the desert. By Andy Farrell

DAVID DUVAL is not known for first four rounds, he was 13 impersonations of Seve Balles- under for the final 18 holes. He teros in his celebration rou- had 11 hirdies and an eagle, tines. The first eight victories of the 27-year-old American's ca- card shows one five, seven reer were met with a virtually imperceptible nod of a head hid- He birdied all hut one of the five den away under a baseball cap and wrap-around sunglasses. The ninth, however, on Sunday and that closing eagle. He holed brought jigging and arm-pumping from the imperturbable one from 10 feet or inside. to match the historic nature of the occasion. Now we know what gets Duval excited.

Duval had just returned a round of 59. To break 60 in competition is the Holy Grail for tournament professionals. To do so in the final round to win had never been done before. When Duval holed out with a six-foot eagle putt at the last hole at PGA West, he still had to wait and see if Steve Pate could force a play-off.

Pate had two holes to play hut parred in to finish one behind. Ordinarily, his closing 66 would have been good enough for victory but this was no ordinary Sunday afternoon in the California desert. As he waited to see if extra holes would be necessary, Duval even made a rare public lapse into humour. Asked if he would be going to the range to prepare for a possible play-off, Duval replied: "Yeah, I really need to work on my game."

Al Geiberger became the original "Mr 59" when he broke 60 for the first time on the US PGA Tour at the Memphis Classic in 1977. Geiberger went on to win the tournament, but Chip Beck, when he repeated the feat at the 1991 Las Vegas Invitational, did not.

Unlike Duval, however, Geiberger shot his 59 in the comfort zone of the second round and Beck in the third of a five-round event. Duval was also playing in a 90-hole tour-nament in which the pros were Jackson in the first four rounds.

On Sunday, it was down to rounds of 70, 71, 64 and 70, Duval got down to husiness. The details of the round are as staggering as his accuracy with each and every club.

After being 13 under for the after driving into a hunker at the

leaving just six pars. The scorefours, six threes and four twos. par-threes and on the five parfives, he collected three birdies all 13 of the first putts he faced

All this came on the 6,950yard Arnold Palmer course at PGA West and in a tournament, the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic, named after another great icon of American life. Hope was there at the end to congratulate Duval hut the golfer had not set out with expectation. "I was way behind and in a position that I couldn't win the golf tournament," Duval said. He started seven behind the overnight leader, Fred Funk. "I played an exceptional round of golf, something that doesn't happen very often. I had to shoot 59 and 1 did."

Duval started by hitting a wedge approach to five feet at the first, got up and down at the par-five second and hit a six-iron to three feet at the short third. The three birdies were followed hy a two-putt from 15 feet for a par at the fourth before he also birdied the par-three fifth. He proceeded with three pars, his only mistake coming at the eighth. He missed the green with a sand wedge shot hut chipped to six feet and holed the putt to save par.

The ninth brought a straightforward birdie and he was out in 31. Before his winning streak hegan 16 months ago, Duval's scoring average for the final round was well in excess of that for the first three rounds. Sundays were the day he fell off the bottom of the leaderboard. This time he exploded off the top. After not winning in his first

accompanied by stars such as 86 starts on the US tour, Duval Michael Jordan and Samuel L has now won nine of his last 28. Three more hirdies followed at the start of the back nine. He the professionals and after holed four-footers at both the 10th and 11th and then from half that distance at the shot 12th.

The longest putt he missed was a 12-footer for birdie at the 13th, but he tapped in for par and,



America's David Duval celebrates after holing his eagle putt on the last for a 59 at PGA West on Sunday

for a hirdie-four. His mastery of the par-threes was completed by his eight iron at the 156-yard 15th to 18 inches while his sandwedge approach at the 16th finished six inches away.

Duval now led by one from Pate, who would also hirdie the 16th, but was thinking about the 59, "I thought hirdies at the he explained. The six-foot putt last two would do it," he said. never looked like missing.

par-five next, holed from 10 feet His tee shot at the short 17th finished 20 feet from the hole and he had to make the fivefooter back for par. But he still had the par-five last to come and, after a perfect drive, Duval needed no more than a five-iron to cover the 219 yards over the water and up to the top tier of the green, "I was a little juiced."

said when asked about his untypical reaction. "I'm kidding. Oh, yeah, I was more excited about the score than having a chance to win the golf tournament. I certainly had aspirations of winning, but the 59 was first and foremost in my mind.

It was kind of a double bonus. Duval is now 52 under par for to Lee Westwood's 10 wins in 13 nine rounds of golf in 1999 and months. Westwood's victories SHOT-BY-SHOT GUIDE TO THE ROUND OF DAVID DUVAL'S LIFE

putt 1Sth (156 yards, par-3): 8-iron, 18-inch putt

11th (512 yards, par-5): Driver, 4-iron, pitching wedge, 4-foot putt

12th (207 yards, par-3): 6-iron, 2-foot putt Birdie 2
13th (447 yards, par-4): 5-wood, 7-iron, 2-putr from 12 feet Par 4
14th [569 yards, par-5): Driver into bunker, 5-iron, sand-wedge, 10-foot

"Gee, I wonder why?" Duval has won both the tournaments came all around the globe, Duval's all on the circuit where he has entered, earning it is hardest for one player to \$1,008,000 (£610,0000) and with dominate. What both men need a skiing holiday sandwiched in

between. The win took him to

About the only person not No 2 in the world, a whisker beconcerned that he did not win hind Tiger Woods, and the pair Player of the Year last season will be scrapping for the top spot over the next few weeks. after topping the money list was His streak can be compared Duval himself, aside from the winner, Mark O'Meara, "Statistically, I may have heen the player of the year, but not historically." Duval said.

"I have told everybody before I certainly want to be the best at some point in my career, and if I am considered that now, I am flattered and excited. But I still have to keep trying to improve. I have got to keep trying to get better and try to add some US Opens and PGAs and such to my résumé."

now are major championships.

Masters change hinders Europe

BY ANDY FARRELL

WHILE SIX former winners of the US Masters from Europe are on the preliminary list of invitees for this year's tourna-ment, the first of the season's four majors remains the least Euro-friendly.

Only 13 of the names on a list of 99 are from this side of the Atlantic, the six former champions, Seve Ballesteros, Bernhard Langer, Sandy Lyle, Nick Faldo, Ian Woosnam and Jose Maria Olazabal. Others are Colin Montgomerie, Darren Clarke and Per-Ulrik Johansson, who all finished in the top 24 last year, plus Lee Westwood, Jesper Parnevik, Thomas Bjorn and the British Amateur champion, Sergio Garcia.

Bjorn was controversially omitted last year when he was the only member of the 1997 Ryder Cup teams not to play at Augusta National. His call-up this time is because of the new system of inviting the leading 50 players from the world rankings at the end of 1998. Greg Norman, who missed most of last season after shoulder surgery, is among those to gain entry from the new

exemption category. Although there are no strict guidelines for invitations to leading players on the Euro-pean Order of Merit, Miguel Angel Jimenez and Patrik Sjoland, who finished fourth and fifth in Europe last season, would have expected an envelope with an Augusta postmark. But the pair will have to try and qualify by being in the world's top 50 a month before the 8 to 11 April tournament. Sjoland is currently \$1st, Jimenez 55th.

This unsatisfactory arrangement will not please Ken Schofield the executive director of the European Tour, whose campaign for better European representation at the game's biggest showpieces has been better received at the US Open and the USPGA Championship.

Yet it is at Augusta where most success has been found. From Ballesteros's first win in 1980 to Faldo's third in 1996, Europeans claimed the US Masters 10 times.

Eat out and save a fortune

or the same price as a copy of The Independent – 45p – we are offering you the chance to treat a friend to a meal, and then save 25 per cent to a meal, and then save 25 per cent every time you eat in selected restaurants. The Independent is running this offer as an introduction to Transmedia. the as an introduction to fransmedia, the restaurant card. All you need to do is collect four tokens from The Independent, and apply for a Transmedia card, as long as you hold a valid Visa, Mastercard, Delta or American Express card. This Trans-

media card can be used in hundreds of

restaurants in Britain as a payment card.
You pay the full amount, and Transmedia will then refund 25 per cent of the bill directly to your Visa, Mastercard, Delta or American Express account, excluding VAT and service - for example, if the bill comes to £100, you will be refunded £25.

The card can be used as often as you like, for breakfast, lunch or dinner at any collecting your tokens today!

SPROWE OF LOTE RESOVERNOUS WHERE

or the same price as a copy of The of the selected restaurants. Even better, when you use the card for the first time in conjunction with this *Independent* offer, the cost of one meal for a guest, up to the

value of £20, will be just 45 pence.

Transmedia are able to offer this excellent value as they pre-purchase food and beverage "credits" at a discounted price from selected restaurants, and then pass

on the saving to the card-holder.

When you apply for this offer, you will receive a membership pack, which contains the Transmedia fistings of hundreds of selected restaurants in Britain. Card-holder will receive a membership pack. holders will receive an updated version every three months. Membership of Transmedia normally costs £35 per annum, but with this offer you will receive

six months' trial membership for free. So if you would like to treat a friend to



HOW TO APPLY

APPLICATION FORM

1st (426 yards, par-4): Driver, pitching wedge, 5-foot putt
2nd (514 yards, par-5): Driver, 4-fron, chip. 3-foot putt
3rd (180 yards, par-3): 6-fron, 3-foot putt
4th (396 yards, par-4): 2-fron, 9-fron, 2-putt from 15 feet
5th (233 yards, par-3): 5-fron, 5-foot putt
6th (562 yards, par-5): Driver, 5-fron, sand wedge, 2-putt from 30 feet

7th (439 yards, par-4): 2-iron, 7-iron, 2-putt from 40 feet 8th (358 yards, par-4): 3-wood, sand wedge, chip, 6-foot putt 9th (451 yards, par-4): 3-wood, 8-iron, 8-foot putt

10th (453 yards, par-4): 3-wood, sand wedge, 4-foot putt

Today we print another diring token. Further tokens will appear every day until Sunday. Collect any four of the rane tokens and send them with the application form attached. to the address below. In order to obtain your meal for 45p you must have a Transmedia card, flou are only eligible for a Transmedia card if you already hold a valid Viss, Majorcard, Delta or American Express card. The meal must be already before the end of April 1999, Independent/Transmedia UK Pic, I Hurlingham Business Park, Sulman Road, London SW6 30U, Tet: 0171 610 6226

E LE AGO CAN ENION AGOS MINT	ALTERNATION
DEVON	Pietase complete using block capitals as card should appear.
FLYNN'S	I I riesse complete using mock capitals as each section appeal.
14-16 Parkhill Road, Torquay, 01803 213936	Mr/Mrs/OtherFirst Names)
DORSET DA VINCIS	Pi/Pis-Other
7 The Ours, Poole 01202 667528	JI: _
ESSEX	Surreme,
CHI CHI'5 Meadows Shopping Centre, Chelmsford	ll i
01245 496333	Home Address
DICKEN'S RESTAURANT	(i
The Green, WestersSeld, Nr. Braintros CM7. 01371 850723	l :
THE GREEN DRAGON RESTAURANT	II:
Youngs End (A131), Braintree CM7 01245 361030	Postode and production of the post of the
THE PARLIAMENT RESTAURANT	distance in the control of the contr
@ The Red Lion Hotel High Street, Colchester, 01 206 577986	# i
GLOUCESTERSHIRE	Home phone
ALISHAN	1;
Farewell Close, off Castle Street. Grenorster, 01285 658987	Business Phone
ANNIES	1;
3 Ovford Street, Moreton-In-Marsh GLSts.	
01608 651981	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
JOHN HENRY RESTAURANT	4!
Bostol Road, Stonehouse GLID, 01453 825155	Business Address
GREATER MANCHESTER	H!
THE BLUE NOTE	Postrode
60 Beech Road, Charlton, M21, 0161 881 77 (5 BRASSERIE ST. PIERRE	
57-63 Princes Street, M2, 0161 228 0231	Correspondence to Horse Business
DOWN UNDER	Consponent as read a signed
9 South Mill Street, M2, 0161 934 8778	#
FAR PAVILION 249-251 Manchester Rd. Swinton 0161 794 3801	Visa/Mastercard/Delta/Amex Account Number (deleto as applicable) Exp Date
GAYLORD INDIAN RESTAURANT	##
Amethys: House, Spring Gardens,	<u>∦</u> ∮└ ┴────────────────────────────────────
Munchesser M2 0161 832 4866	I hereby authorise Transmedia UK Pic or it's assignoe to debut the above Fixed Amer/VisaPfasterrand/Delta account
L'ITALIANO Marcel Cornelius	is a directly for all rescurant charges moured by me and for my angual fee (currently (35) at the end of my six meants (2007).
175 Manchester Rd, Cherken-cum Hardy,	membership unless written cancellation notice is received in advance. I understand all restaurant charges 1 judior than service, up and VAT) incurred by me will be offert by a 25% credit when being debited to my credit cand
Manchester, Min. 0161 862 9565	account I recognise the Transmede Card is the property of the season and will be recurred by me upon request.
NICD CENTRAL	i
Mount Street, M60, 0161 736 6488 PASSAGE TO INDIA	# -
168 Monton Street, Monton, Eccles	# !
Manchester M30 0161 787 7546	A :
RAIDOOT -	Sprance Date Date Date
Cartion House, 18 Albert Square, M2, 0161 834 2176 ROYAL DROHID	You may receive details about offers which may be of interest to you.
36 Charlotte Street M1 0161 236 5183	Tick here if you do not wish to receive this information.
SIAM ORCHID	
54 Portland Street, M1, 0161 236 1388	i indu
THE VIENNA GRILL The WendoverHotel	
Monton Road, Eccles.M30 0161 789 7811	WE WILL BE LISTING OTHER COUNTIES' RESTAURANTS
	ADDRESSES THROUGHOUT THE WEEK

terms, and consistents
from a single control of the med for 45p offer and we month; less Transmissia Card membership mass include four of the nine token, that will account it this independent and the independent On Sunday with
gree qualitation. Should not decide to control your membership after the to-month free period the annual fee a (35 Card holders may care at any cone, in writing, and by returning the card to Transmissia. To participate
readors must, which is valid virus. PlasterCard, Eetha Card or American and past is transfer death of your account strongly normal purchase auditoriation. The Transmissia card exists holders to a 35% strong on food and
beverages in studing will not up it participating instantiates bared in the directory powered to said member every serves. To use your test allocate a resource from the top our Transmissia card in the action and the card of the artist and agree for the full amount. Transmissia will thing your you. Plastercard, Detect and or American Express for the full amount of the 1th and articles a control order for 2th our card.

The full transmission of the full first affects served days for the Transmissia Card. The tot below is cornect as the of going to press.

LINGFIELD

16th (364 yards, par-4): 2-iron, sandwedge, 6-inch putt 17th (130 yards, par-4): 9-iron, 2-putt from 20 feet 18th (543 yards, par-5): Driver, 5-iron, 6-foot putt TOTAL (out 31, in 29, 13 under)

HYPERION 1.30 Hormuz (nb) 2.00 Harpoon Loule 2.30 Baptismal Rock 3.00 Hyde Park 3.30 Tragic Dancer 4.00 OH I SAY (nap)

GOING: Standard STALLS: 5f & Im outside; rest inside.
ORAW ADVANTAGE: Low best up to tim, especially 6f.

Eleft-hand, undulating course. Equatrack surface.
Course as SE of flown on B2028 Lingfield station (served by London, Victoria) adjoins course ADMISSION: One enclosure 5t0. CAR PARK: Club E3; remainder free.
ELEADING TRAINERS: G 1, Moore 64-648 (13%). R Hennon 48-370 (13%). M Johnston 48-293 (17%).

ELEADING JOCKEYS: A Clark 24-597 (124%), J Weaver 68-301 (221%). S Sendors 65-63 (15%). 68-307 (22.1%), S Sanders 65-563 (11.5%)

FAVOURITES: 713-2125 (33.6%)

■ FAVOURITES: 7/3-2/25 (3.36%) BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Hovergott Princess (2.00), Hill Storm Ivisored, 1.30), Inceptable (visored, 3.00), Barttone (2.30), Rolling Rio & An Executive Do (3.30), Entrate & Sharp Rhythm (4.00) have all been sent 270 miles.

1.30 SULKY MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5.250 added 1m 2f

0 ABSOLUTE MAJORITY (11) 5 Curley 4 9 10 ...
J P Spenror (3) 1
ALHUWBILL J Bridger 4 9 10 G Bardwell 7
2/354 BAAJIL (60) D Cospow 4 9 10 A McGlone 2
0 IN GOOD ORDER (25) 5 L Moore 4 9 5 ... O IN GUOD CHARLET IN R Brisland (7) 8

OBO HILL STORM (140) K McAusilo 383 J Cultum 6 V
5 HORRALZ (64) M Johnston 383 J Fanning 2
52 WESTERN COMMAND (46)(BF) Sr M Prescott 39

C Notice 4

CN 183 M Quern 383 . F Norion 5

8 004-43 ZOLA (18) M Queen 38 3 . . . - 8 declared -- 8 declared -BETTING: 7-4 Western Command, 3-1 Hormuz, 7-2 Zola, 7-1 Ab-eciute Majonty, 14-1 Baayi. 16-1 Hill Storm, 20-1 others

FORM VERDICT A weakly-contested maden and surely a struightforward op-portunity for WESTERN COMMAND, who is proven here and will be well suited by today's step up in distance.

2.00 DOG CART CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS E) £3,500 added 1m

00-01 FAR-SO-LA (11) Mrs L Josef 4 8 8 8 R Cochane 11
2356- ALAMEIN (206) D Netrols 6 8 n ... M Rebbut 2
540-25 HOMESTEAD (14)(D) R Harnon 5 8 90ano O Nett 6
605-25 LANDRFUN (13)(D) H Collegradge 4 8 9 ... J Quann 4
400-22 DOBERMAN (13) B Meetan 4 8 7 ... R Pentam 3
00005- ED'S FOLLY (157) LA Dace 5 6 7 G McLaughin 6 8
(5-505) LUSTINIANUS (12) (C) D Redger 7 8 7 G Bendweit 7
1230-1 SOAKING (12) (C) D Purgoyne 9 8 7 ... J Tate 9
00000- SUPER SAINT (20)(D) A Vendermachen(8-6) 5 8 7

10 1004-4 HARPOON LOUIE (C1)(CD) A Vanderbaggien(Bel) 8 85 1 550-00 NEVERGOLF PRINCESS (5)(C) T J Naughton 4 8 4 R Winston (3) 5 B - 11 declared -

SETTING: 7-2 Herpoon Louis, Soziding, 4 Homestead, 6 Akazelin, 7 Landrium. 10 Hevergolf Princess, 8 Doberman, 12 others FORM VERDICT

Today's conditions are deal for HARPOON LOUIE, who has been entered on a favourable weight, and he looks a more reliable proposition than Alamelin, who is the only one with a higher raing. Doberman and course specialist Soaking look the pick of the remainder. 2.30 ARENA ON LINE SERVICES HANDICAP (D) £5,250 added 5f

TIS-21 TEAR WHITE (14) (CD) T Miles 5 10 0 ... L Carter D 0001- MISS HIT (85) (D) Miles G Kolleway 4 8 8 P Fredericks (7) 2 (5:00-3 BEST OF OUR DAYS (21)(C) A Vanderhaughen (80) 4 95 S Whiterorth 3

FORM GUIDE

FOHM GUIDE
Tear White: Rarely out of the money here, but moving up
the weights with 5b rise for neck win over Classy Cleo last
time and 11 ib higher than previous win. Not well drawn
Milas Hit: Has taleen well to the sand and carrie late to beer
sweet Magic 1/. length at Wolventampton last time. 5b rise
offiser by smart chainer and books likely improver
Best Of Dur Deys: Double C&D occore for Chris Thomton last Jan. Thed over long https: since and will need to improve on latest 31/-length 3rd to Krystal Max over 61 here
livory's Grab Hire: Lettle fuck in running lately and plummeting down the handicap. Well drawn meting down the handicep. Wall drawn Beptismal Rock: On a roll with 6f wirs here, at Woher-hampton end namowly at Southwell yeaterdey. Sill on a good mark with 6lb nee for latest wins. Fost starter who could

mark with 6th rise for latest wins. Fost starter who could overcome wide draw Boritone: Tried up to Im last year but yet to break his duck and title encouragement in recent efforts, notably 10 lengths 10th of 14 to Mularab over 6there Leothic: Posebly fishtered when beating Scotland Bay 7 lengths at Southwell (7th and unplaced behind Baptismal Rock yesterday Yel to prove himself on this surface VEDDICES.

VERDICT: Unless yesterday's brave effort at Southwell has left its mark, course winner BAPTISMAL ROCK should has set its mark, course winner BAP+ I ISMAL, MULLIA STOLIC keep up his winning sequence. He is undertably well hand-icapped, fivory's Grab Hire would be a threat bock to his best, but latest running auggests Milas HII may prove to be the main danger. She is back on her home track after a successful foray to Wolverhampton and has potential for

3.00 HANSOM CLASSIFIED STAKES (CLASS E) £3,500 added 71 1025-0 HYDE PARK (12)(C) Sr M Prescott 5 9 12 C Nuter 2
4021-4 INCEPTA (10) P McEntee 4 9 10 J Gotobed (7) 3 V
4025-1 TANHLID (11) (D) D Chapman 8 9 10 A Culhane 5
42:300 AMG DANCER (10) M Chapman 8 9 10 A Culhane 5
42:300 AMG DANCER (10) M Chapman 4 9 4 J 0 Smith (3) 1
MAQ-0 LESTABLE FLEURIE (21) (CD) El Smort 4 9 4

— 5 declared — BETTING: 2-1 Takhild, 9-4 Hyde Park, 100-30 Alig Dancer, 7-1 Incepts, 12-1 L'Estable Fleurie. FORM VERDICT

Today's conditions, a small field over today's fast 7% look ideal for HYDE PARK who can fulfit the promise he showed here back in November. Takhild is probably better on Fibresand, while Alig Dancer is herd to with with, L'Estable Fleurite is cut of form and incepta is meeting all his rivals on much worse terms then in a handleap.

3.30 SILKS SUITE HANDICAP (E)

8 56690 SWING JOB (48) T Mits 8 8 L Carter 11 9 63-324 MALCHIK (3) P Horfing 8 5 L Carter 11 10 09005 SUPERBOR (7) R Williams 7 10 G Bardwell 9 11 30564 SMPSON'S DOMANN (15) J S Moore 7 10 P Feesey 7 - 11 declared - Minimum: 7st 10ts. Two handicap weight: Superbob 7st 9th, Simp-

son's Domain 7st (85) BETTING: 7-2 Rolling Rio, 5-1 Tragic Dancer, Meichlik, 6-1 Ques-tuary, 7-1 An Executive Do, Bebe Cosmonaut, 8-1 others FORM VERDICT

The step up to today's C&O brought about improvement in top weight ROLLING RIO, who was clear of the remainder when second to all-the-way winner Chelcedory here last time. On 5th worse letters he should just about be able to confirm his aupenomity one the fand, Matchilk, while a line through the fourth Zola gives him the beating of Tragic Dancer. Best of the remainder may be Bebe Cosmonaut.

4.00 PHAETON HANDICAP (CLASS F) \$2,750 added 3YO 67

S0032: RAJMATA (39) Sr M Prescott 9 7 C Nutter 1D 401-15 DREAM ON ME (17) (C) (BP) G L Moore 9 8 00-2C ERINVALE (5) (C) P Hastom 8 6 ... Candy Morris 7 000-3: OH I SAY (5) Mess G Kellewsy 9 2 P Fredericks (7) 8 500-06 BANNINGHAM BREEZE (15) (D) D Nicholls 8 12

46ramen 7:: 1080 True handrap weight: Russian Velvet 7st 980 BETTING: 7-2 Erimale, 4-1 Rajmata, Oh I Say, 6-1 Complementery 7-1 Benningham Breezo, 8-1 Dream On Me, 10-1 others FORM VERDICT

The genute ERINVALE has good dains. Most of his rivals are worth opposing but Barningham Breeze, who hinted at a return to form at Southwell last time, is interesting in his third run for a new stable, even though hes never run on Equitable.

RACING RESULTS

Going: Salt - Heavy in places

1.15: (2m gwenile novice hurdle) 11-1 Stone Beck (4th), 20-1 Court Ordeal 7 ran. B. 11, 14 (Vinne) chestnut filly by Unluwan out of Tracholium, trained by Mes S Hell at Middleham, for Colin Platis) Tota: \$180; \$110 \$340 Dual Forecest \$300 Computer Straight Forecast: £1145

. FOUNDRY LANE

Also: 5-4 Tom Sa. 50-1 Clavering (4th) 5 ran. 15. sh-hd. dist. (Winner bay gelding by Attoto out of Eoer, trained by Mrs M Rev-eley, at Saltburn, for A Sharralli. Total: \$2.30; \$1.00 \$2.60 DF \$8.00 CSF \$10.97

9 15: 12m 41 MDvds novice huidle)

଼ 🕮 🕛 🗣

Also: 14-1 Mesdowbank, Wag The Brush, 25-1 Sumo (8th), 33-1 Casual Coll (9th), 40-1 Global Legend (4th), 100-1 Edetone, William of Orange, 200-1 Pou Nou.

11 ran. 10, dist. 14, 6, B. (Winner chestnut golding by Mazzad out of Nakuru. Irsaned N Tweston-Davies, at Chellenham, for The Son Partnership). Tote. C350; £1,40, £170, £130 DF: £120, CSF: £5.54.

1. ISLANO CHIEFR Supple 5-1; 2. Shore OptionsL Wyer 6-1 3. Naughty FutureR McGrath 5-1 Also: 9-4 fev Flot Top (4th), 5-1 Feels Like Gold, 14-1 Hags Way, 16-1 A N C Express 7 ran. 27-7. 12. (Winner buy golding by Carlingtont Castle out of Run Prggy Run, trained by P Beaumont, at Brandsby for George Digert Tote: 5470; 5250, 5330 OF: 51540 CSF 52746.

3. For Cathal P Nivon 9-1 Also: 6-4 lav The Butlerwick Kid (5th), 6-1 Saleel (6th), 5-2 Young Thrustor, 14-1 Douby L. Lungo, at Carrutherstown, for Edward Bridbeck). Tote: \$480, \$250, \$450 DF; \$3350, CSF: \$3591

Also: 7-2 Dangerman (4th), 25-1 Bukehom, 50-1 The Giptel (5th), 100-1 Merry Christ-mas (5th), Rocky My Boy, Still Friends. mas (9th), Flocky My Boy, Stal Friends, 8 ran, 34, 27, 10, 5, 19, (Winner by gelding by Darshaan out of Samarzana trained by Miss Venetia Williams at Herotord, Iol Lady Harris, Tota: £170; £110, £200 £210 De 2760 CSF: 26.35

Placepot: £6950 Quadpot: £2120 Place 6: £6202 Place 5: £ 38.29

SOUTHWELL

1.00: 1. NO SHOES NO NEWS (A Curtaine) 14-1; 2. Lucky Touch 4-7 km, 3. Appyabo 14-1 8 ran. 4, 37: 1M Buckley, Upper Holm, steyl Tota: 5200, 5170, 5100, 5100 D= 5540 CSF: 51985, NR, Blue Hopper

2161280
3.00: 1. ELTON LEDGER (R Price) 5-2 fav;
2. Garmock Valley 5-1; 3. Most Respectful 3-2. 15 fan. st-hd. 1%. (Mrs N Medauley,
Meilon Mowbray). Tote: 6290; 5120, 5220,
6290, 0F, 5120, CSF; \$4,36
3.30: 1. OCK TURPIN (P Dobbs) 16-1; 2.
King Priam 7-2, 3. Ambidentrous 14-1, 14
ran. 5-c tax Such Boldness (5th), 1%, %. (B
Smart, Lambourn). Tote: 62100; 8470, 6170,
6260. OF 62680, CSF; \$6340. Tricast:

Jackpot; Not work Pool of £3978.23 carned lorward to Fontwell loday. Plecopor: £2390 Guadpot: £2300.

2.00: 1. CHINABERRY (D Mernagh) 12:1. 2. Ozberre 10:1. 3. Miss All Alone 2:1 fav. 13 ran. Hd. 1½. (M Brittain, Warthin, Tota: 50:90; C3:20, D180; 5120, DF; E3180, CSF; 51773; Timent Care

2.30; 1. BAPTISMAL ROCK (J Cuim) 9-2 J. 30; 1. BAPTISMAL ROCK (J Cuim) 9-2 J. 1av; 2. Ocker 9-2 J. 1av; 3. Aljaz 20-1 18 ran. Sh nd. 5. (A Newcombe, Barnstaple). Tota: 0.50; 0.190, 0.190, 0.140, 0.120, 0.19: 0.190, 0.57; 0.2122, Treast; 0.2140, 0.120, 0.19: 0.190, 0.101, 0.190, 0.1

in 10 year old Etton Ledger landed his 15th course win and the 17th of his career at Southwall yesterday. Trainer Norma Macautey said: "He's done nothing since he ran here 10 days ago. Every time we have taken him out for exercise, he's just planted hurself. All he has done is walk."

12/2/200 AC.

3.40 Cho 3.40 Cho 4.10 Res THE PARTY OF

CPW GUIDE

C. AND CHARLES Town ・ 4777 英瀬

· - T---rteere de date recentement reces 386 A STATE CHASE &

.

The second of th

೯೦೧೪ **೧**ಭಾರ 1713 25 75 THE WAY TO SEE

Married Services

FOLTWELL A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR TYPER ON

A Company of the Comp

ARTERIAN TOTAL CLASS



BY IAN DAVIES

Chipped Out."

in 1974.

Wir Hill Ladbrokes

GREAT YORKSHIRE HANDICAP CHASE (3m)

Corel

UPDATE

wouldn't mind having a go with

Some Great Yorkshire en-

Tiutchev has shortened as

favourite for the Tote Gold Tro-

phy following his six-length vic-

tory in the Lanzarote Handicap

Hurdle at Kempton, while

Istabraq, B facile winner at

Leopardstown on Sunday, looks

sure to start the hottest

favourite for the Champion **Hurdle since Comedy Of Errors**

was beaten at 4-6 by Lanzarote

LADBROKE TROPHY HANDICAP CHASE (Cheltenham, Saturday) Ladbrokes: 9-2 Even Flow, Papilion, 5-1 Cyfor Malta (with a nul), 11-2 Jathb, 6-1 Mormae Forte, Mr Strong

20-1

20-7

15-1

15-1

20-1

25-1

25-1

25-1

25-1

25-1

25-1

13-1

33-1

351

25-1

33-1

33-1

161

25-1

251

23-1

351

tries are also in the Ladbroke Trophy Chase at Cheltenham.

The Toiseach heads

for Yorkshire Chase

THE TOISEACH will try to recoup Hennessy Cognac Gold

Cup losses in the Great Yorkshire Chase at Doncaster on

Saturday, for which 31 entries

were confirmed yesterday. Sent

off a well-backed 5-1 shot at

Newbury, James Fanshawe's

seveo-year-old was pulled up

approaching the last after

weakening from four out, but is

said to be in good form now. Martin Todhunter has three

entries in Colonel In Chief, Chipped Out (who has a 6lb

penalty for an Ayr victory) and

Maitre De Musique. He said:

"Maitre De Musique is the

most likely runner - if he gets

in. He ran well there last time

[beaten a oeck by Nosam].

Colonel In Chief runs on Friday

and Chipped Out is also entered

at Ayr oo Saturday so 1'll wait

and see what both races look

like before deciding. But I

act (J Fanshave'11st(Sb) 8-1

Even Flow (T Casey/11544b

Sittler late (/ Gittors/10stffb)

errey LI King Tüstliğbi

razer Island (R Rove/Ost Ob)

Sail By The Stare (H Daly, 1154b)

Chipped Out (M Todhyrter/10:39b) 20-1

Jufferies LI Old/9st6b)

(Mint)

iris Jane There is the same the same Than

STATE AND

:--c.) (-80%

As ANTONIA

en (nothing)

一一点。

1 telegraph

- The state of the

in it if the con-

A CONTRACTOR

138 75 15 15

A THE OWNER.

- The Long Market

50 Pat

- - 1 he

1. 7.11 12 円度

11 年16日東

The State of the S

... 1/2

1.01.22

To

- T-72

111100 285

2: 16

1000000

1.17

1. 1.4 %.

4 14 FEE 17

in a little market by A

1 ... 10

1.7 1.7

esergi.

2.7

1777

12 TH (25

1.27 9

100

77

- in her bee

HE INDEPENDENT

change Business can Europe pick up after winter break

former women for early land sear land of the sear grain die let THE GOOD news for Britain's rainers over the last couple of weeks has been that Paul Nicholls's horses have been enjoying a midwinter break as announced by THE GOOO news for Britain's Second Media The bad news, as announced by a treble at Kempton on Satureomene Lander Francisco day is that the batteries have been recharged, and they are now ready to pick up where they left off.

> But there is one important exception. Nicholls will be hoping that See More Business, the best chaser in his yard, can produce anything but a repeat performance of his last outing when he runs in the Pillar Chase at Cheltenham this weekend. See More Business started favourite at 11-4 for the King George VI Chase on Boxing Day, a race he had woo a year earlier, but was beaten before the leaders had set out on the final circuit. Teeton Mill, the jvinner, replaced him at the top of the Gold Cup betting. while See More Business was

pushed out to an insulting 14-1. The reason, if any, for that desperate run is as unclear now as it was then, and the heavy going is all Nicholls can offer. Often you have a reason either in the preparation or afterwards, but we've seen absolutely nothing," he said yesterday. "They called the ground at Kempton the same as it was the year before, but

1.40 Fortria Rosie Dawn

2.10 King's Banker

2.40 Smarty

to soft) less month

BY GREG WOOD

much softer this year, and in the light of nothing else, that's all we can put it down to. Sometimes you get funny form on that sort of ground, and you'll get a horse that looks exceptional. When you get back to normal ground, the others come back to form."

As Nicholls points out, Simply Dashing, another who ran poorly in the King George, returned a better performance in last Saturday's Peter Marsh Chase, on going described as

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Celtic Season (Leicester 4.10) **NB: Three Saints** (Leicester 2,40)

soft. "See More Business is 14-1 for the Gold Cup because be ran one bad race," the trainer said, "but I don't think he's got any less chance than he had before the King George. If he runs like that again on Saturday, we might have to put our thinking caps on, but I'll be sur-

prised if he does." The exact quality of the potential oppositioo on Saturday will not be clear until this morning, since only six entries were received for the Pillar Chase yesterday and the race has there was no comparison, it was been re-opened. Since there is

LEICESTER

3.10 Astrat Invasion 3.40 Cherrymore

4.10 Tom Pinch

STONESBY NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F)

FORM GUIDE

FOHM GUIDE.

Follow De Cell: Returned to a shorter trip when successful at Uttoweter (2m, soft) lest time. 9to out of the handicap that day and hus off a 5to higher mark here.

Fortrie Roeie Dewit: Had about 15 lengths in hand when unshipping her rider at the linal lence at Wincarton (2m, good) lest month. Disappointed at Ludiow (21/am, good) next time, but worth enother chance in this easier event.

Fighting Times: Selling hardle winner (2m1 (, good to firm) lest season for Craig Smith. Lost bruch after the 5th on first run for new yard at Wincarton (2m, soft) this month and relative his character (also character).

makee his chasing debut. Sandrift: Maiden hurdler, has shown little aptitude for tences in 4 outings this season.

VERDICT: A straight fight between Follow De Call and FORTRIA ROSIE DAWN looks the only conclusion with Venetia Williams' mere narrowly preferred despite her record of completing only twice in her less? 7 outlings over farces. She put in a sound round of jumping until blandering and unseating Share Kolly when about 15 lengths in command at Wincemton lest month and deserves a change of luck.

2.10 BROOK MAJOEN CHASE (CLASS F) £3,000 added 2m 7f 110yds Penalty Value £2,213

- d decered -EETTING: 11-10 King's Banker, 2-1 Ever Bissand, 8-1 Kersich Berd, 10-1 Reties Couries, 16-1 Resh-lide, 20-1 The Honost Poscher, 50-1 others

FORM GUIDE

ered by her 3rd (bin 31 lengths) to Native Charm at Warwick (2m, good to soft) last month
Remember Star: Poor selling hurder, mede mistakes and pulled up on her chasing debut
in March. No show on her only outing over fences that season at Taunton (2m3), good

1.40 STONESBY NOVICE TRANSPORTED S2,310 S3,000 added 2m 1f Penalty Value 52,310

£30,000 on offer, this might seem like a feeble effort by Britain's owners and trainers, but it is only fair to point out that the Peter Marsh, and the Hennessy Gold Cup at Leopardstown a week oo Saturday, are tempting alternatives.

An altogether more modest race, at Wincanton on Thursday, will see the debut of Nicholis' second possible Gold Cup contender, Double Thriller. He was just another hunter chaser less than a year ago, but theo so too was the borse that he beat in a race over the Gold Cup course and distance last April - a grey called Teeton Mill.

That form - Double Thriller woo by 12 lengths - was enough to persuade Stephen Winstanley Teeton Mill's owner that he should try to add Double Thriller to his string of horses. He failed, but he is not the only punter to appreciate his potential. Double Thriller was 66-1 for the Gold Cup a few weeks ago, but is now half those odds with many bookies.

"If it hadn't been for what Teeton Mill had done after that, you would not even be thinking about the Gold Cup for him." Nicholls said. "Bot obviously that can't have been bad form, although he's got a lot to prove yet from the handicap point of view. We've been pleased with him at home and he schooled



The exciting Majadou, already a Cheltenham winner, has a double Festival entry

prove, but they all do the same sort of work at home, so you can't say whether they're a Gold Cup horse or not. Helikes Cheltenham, but the next few weeks will tell us whether we'll be going there for a Gold Cup

or a handicap." Looking further shead, the list of contenders for the Royal & SunAlliance (Novice) Chase at the Festival was published well this morning, and whatever yesterday, and the name of

he does on Thursday, he'll im- Martin Pipe cropped up time Julio Peromingo, who trains and again. He supplies 10 of the at Maisons-Laffitte, stages a 88 entries, including Unsinkable Boxer, Potentate and the fiveyear-old ex-French Majadou, already a winner over fences at Cheltenham, who also features prominently in the betting for the Arkle Challenge Trophy (Novice) Chase,

Lingfield will hold an inspection at 10am today to detomorrow's jumps meeting.

Centaur Express: Front-runner, is not robust enough to carry big weights and runs off the same mark as when 3rd (beaten 17, 8, 4) to Follow De Call and Astral Imasion (3to worse off) at Unicester (2m, soft) last time, Looks weighted up to his best Maeihafish: Ran subsequent Kempton winner Buckland Lad to a hid at Windsor (2m, good

to soft) last month. Appears to just stay 2m, so this lessing course will be against him Regent The Clouds: Consistent handless hunder last season and made a successful start to his chasing career at Folkastions (2m, good to soft) in November, 3m off is 7to higher mark next time and scope for improvement. Authoral Investions Relead 3to after his 2nd to Follow De Call at Utlowers (2m, soft) last

Author Investion: Resed 3to after his 2nd to Follow De Call at Unionser jam, you was time. Course and distance winner off this mark and well handicapped (33to better off for 1% lengths) with Play Games on their numbing at Hereford last season. Even At Hubbest: Taled off last 2 outings over hurdles and tacky winner of 2m11 tricap hole at Bangor in November. Fell and pulled up (broke blood vessel) on his 2 nurs over

VERDICT: The handicapper has caught up with Play Games who has been askulely placed

3.40 OICK CHRISTIAN NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,250

FORM GUIDE
Ying On The Run: Won his only hish point-to-point in 1997, Smart novice hurder last season and jumped well to win his chase debut at Warwick (2*/an, good) in November. Unseated inter at the 9th next time, but remains a bright prospect Cardiac Americ Paced once from 2 outrags in hish points last season, Promising first run over fences when 2nd to Tireido at Stratford (2m5t, soft) last month.

run over fances when 2nd to Trisido at Stratford (2m3t, soft) set fronts.
Chernymore: Hes shown useful form over hundes, though has always looked the type to do better over fences. Rem as if he needed the outing when 4th to Moonsh on his reappearance over hundles is Newbury (2m, heavy).
Retiguingly: Winner over hundles in France, including twose at Auteuil. Not foot perfect before falling at 8th on first outing over fences at Sandown (21/m), good to soft) this month.

VERDICT: Makounji came from France with a big reputation, but took a liberty too many on her classing bow at Sendown last time and fall at the first of the railway lences. She has the potential to make her mark over fences, but faces serious male in King On The Rum and CRERRYMORE. King On The Run has the advantage in experience, but has to concede 6th.

4.10 CROXTON PARK HANOICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £3,000 added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £2,427

Stramum weight; 10st. True handoop weight: Serbse Of Value 9st 13lb. BETTING: 7-4 Celtic Season, 5-2 Jeson's Boy, 3-1 Tom Photh, 10-1 Lyphand's Fable, 14-1 Hello Met Man, 16-1 Reselvicoch, 25-1 Serse Of Value

FORM GUIDE

PUTITE SOURCE.

Celtic Season: Promising lists effort over terces when 2nd at Existe (2m11, good) and in with every chance rest time when fell 4 out at Windamton (2m51, good).

Jason's Boy: Outre consistent, but often vulnerable in a finish and binfered first time. Is also lower than when withing just assesson and this locks this best thence for some time. Reachjooth: Returned from a 2-month lay-off when pulled up 3 out at Doncaster (2m, good to soft) last week. No promise in 2 other outrings this season and still a made nover tenore.

added 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £3,948

rare Freoch raid on Footwell today, wheo he saddles Litchanine for the Selsey Novices' Chase. The six-year-old has been campaigned at Cagnes on the Mediterranean coast and last month was twice a strongfinishing runner-up over fences at around today's distance. Patrice Julien's mount flopped termine prospects for when stepped up in grade 16

n Truth (S Golings:10c)4b) latire De M. (M Tochunier/9si6ib) Naiyaari (P Rich Toccilo) The Last Pling (Mrs S Smith/10st(Slb) 20-1 1-3 IdEast varieties, M.J. Raff vrinninglant 20-1 Blue Charm (Ma S Brade me/Doffills) 25-1 Cab Do Target (Ats M Peveloy: 10st6b): 18-1 colones in Chief (M Todisanter/Hst4b) 25-1 iden Spinner (N Henderson/10s/10b) 25-1 Agior Bell (A Whitans/10st) bert 64 Hemmond Danie 25-1 Ask Me Later (Mrs S Bradourre/955(b) 25-1 Carlogiard Gale (T George/95/7b) 23-1 Glamongitiz (P Dation/10:11b) 25-1 Go Buffistic (D Nicholson/12st) 33-1 251 33-1 Lively Knight (J Gifford/15:28b) 33-1 River Unshion (J H Johnson/9:48b) 33-1 33-1 301 Symbol Of Success (D Williams/925/5) 23-1 ida King (O Sherwood Tourist) 40-1 days ago and was pulled up. loyun (K Ryan/10st2lb)

TOTE GOLD TROPHY H'CAP HURDLE (2m 110yds) Horse (Trainer/weight) Was Hill Ladbrokes Corat Farteban (D Nicholson 9:27b) 3-1 Watskup Sounds (M Pipe/10:08ths 6-1 omadic (N Meade 0/0/093b) 14-1 12-1 14-1 14-1 14-1 lowing Wind (N. Pipe/11stalt) 16-1 16-1 Bold Gall () Forchave/Bd Glb) 16-1 14-1 16-1 Chairle Li Oks's Darries Polar Prospect (P Hoths/9st9lb) Idnight Legend (D Nichalson/10st6lb) 20-1 25-1 20-1 r Talbet (1 Ord/9554b) 251 16-1 30-1 20-1 Minimum weather 10st. Each way a guester the politic places 1, 2, 3, 4 (Nowbern, Saturday, 13 February)

ARKLE	E (NOVICE)	CHASE	(2m)	
Horse (Trans)	Corel	Wm /m	Laphytes	Total
His Song (M Morris/Ir)	5-1	51	B-1	11-2
Reser Do Mai (M Pipe)	9-1	6-1	7-1	7-1
Majadou (M Pipe)		10-1	8-1	
Kuraktos (J Giflord)	12-1	10-1	10-1	11-1
Potentiate (M Pipe)	12-1	10-1	12-1	N-1
Fingship Uberalies (P Notols)	14-1	10-1	12:1	12-1
Aginwedda Gold (T Tole)	14-1	12-1	16-1	10:1
Dawn Leader (J Old)	12-1	12.1	16-1	10-1
Gris D'Estroyal (M Pipe)	W-1	12-1	14-1	18-1

CHAMPI	DR H	BHOLL	(2m 110	ya»,	
Horse (Trans)	Coral	Win Hill	Lathroles	Stantoy	Total
(A P OBrenkti)	1-2	47	47	1-2	8-12
French Holly (F Murphy)	10-1	7-1	8-1	9-1	8-1
Wahiba Senda (M Pipe)	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1	20
Blowing Wind (M Pipe)	20-1	29-1	20-1	20-1	25-1
Dato Star (J M Jelleson)	25-1	25-1	25-1	25-1	25
Grey Shot (* Baking)	20-1	20-1	20-1	30-1	25
Happy Change (Mas Y Williams)	25-1	20-1	25-1	16-1	20-
Spretarez (Miss Y Williams)	20-1	20-1	25-1	20-1	25-
Tistcher (D Nicholson)	18-1	20-1	16-1	20-1	25-

Horse (Trainer)	Comi	Wm 168	Lockroles
Mick Dunden (E O'Grady/h)	41	5-1	3.1
Unsinizhio Boxer (M Pipe)		5-1	
Majadou (M Pipe)	8-1	i-1	7-1
Kadou Norantals (O Steracod)	10-1	18-1	18-1
Gris D'Estruvel (M Pipe)	12-1	12-1	12-1
Lord Of The River (O Sherwood)	12-1	\$-1	12-1
Spendid (O Nicholson)	12-1	11-1	10-1
bals Care (M Houngar/Ir)	20-1	16-1	20-1
Maritacrough (H Daly)	20-1	16-1	14.1

FONTWELL

HYPERION 1.50 Pagasonic 2.20 Litchanina 2.50 Effectual 3.20 Arlequin De Sou 3.50 Another Chancer 4.20 Stormhili Stag

GOING: Soft.

III Left-hand hurdle course; figure-of-eight chase course. Tight circuit, not suitable for long-stricing horses.

III Course is S of village at junction of A29 and A27. Barmham station (Brighton - Portsmouth line) 2m. ADMINSCION: Club £33; Tattersale £9 (accompanied under-16s tree); Silver Ring £5 (OAPS half-price). CAR PARK: Picnic area £4 plus £5 for each

occupant; remainder free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADING TRAINCRS: P Nicholia 28-58 (484%), M Pipe 28-101

(257%), J Gifford 20-131 (15.9%), R Buckler 18-79 (22.8%)

LEADING JOCKEYS: A P NicCoy 37-147 (25.2%), P Hide 21-123

(731%), R Durwoody 18-88 (20.5%), J Oabortle 15-51 (29.4%),

FAVOURITES: 225-525 (42.9%).

BLINKERED FIRST TUBE: Enipeus (3.20).

1.50 FAREHAM HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 4YO 2m 2f 110yds					
· cours Loan OF LOVE (25) (CD) D Wears 11 4 Mr N Febru (7)					
2 POR DODOGRANT (17) . Alertest 11 4					
B EFFER BATH ER'S SECRET (25) M PIOS 11 4					
4 November 19 A Carrol 10 Co					
5 As AVEN AN C Whedon 10 12 W Williamson					
A R PARASONIC (13) G L Moons 10 12					
7 Let I SING ROSE (PM) R Frod 107					
6 U3446 NYSTERIOUS MISS (8) C Mann 107Miss C.J Mann					
BETTING: 7-4 Saction's Secret, 3-1 Pagesonic, 7-2 The Robe, 7-1 Robo- rent, 8-1 Lord Of Love, 10-1 Agen, 20-1 others					

Reflex Courier: Modest form in novice chases, 14 lengths account to key Boy at Plump-ton (2mSt, good to soft), Longer trip will suit, but he has plently to find. The Homest Posichier: Very Eightly raced, making point winner in 1995, 20-1, well-bestlen last of 5 finishers in decemb novice chase at Warnsick on return.

VERDICT: Kenthalt Bard will win races of his gets his jumping act together and the light-ly-raced Restriction should eventually prove capable of a lot better, but they would be highly speculative fencies here pitted against EVER BLESSED and King's Banker. The pick on their hundles form, this per should prove useful recruits to chasing. Ever Blessed is nearowly preferred following his satisfactory chasing debut at Newbury.

2.40 Sittatety

4.10 form Princip

GOING: Soft [Heavy patch by the wrining past]. All chase card.

Right-hand, undusting course. Purn-in of 250yds.

Course is 2m SE of city off AG. Lelicester station (London, St Pancrae - Sheffield ine) 2m. ADMISSION: Gub 13; Tattersells 10 (OAPs 10), Pronic car park 125 admits car and four occupants, Free reoccards. CAR PARK: Free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

LEADINO TRAINERS: M Pipe 19-75 (25.3%), 0 Nicholson 11-52 (21.2%), N Henderson 10-32 (31.3%), Mrs J Plansan 8-46 (186%), N Twiston-Davies 7-29 (24.1%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 16-55 (20.9%), A Magnater 12-80 (20%), M A Fizzger-aid 11-50 (22.2%), J Oborne 7-37 (189%), Enadley 7-39 (17.9%), W Marston 7-71 (89%), BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Jason's Boy (4.10). 2.40 RABBIT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £4,000 added

_		ZIII / I 10yds Penaity Value £3,202
	33-3F3	SISTER ROSZA (31) (P Lamymen) Mrs S Lamymen 11 Tl 11
		JOHN DRUBBI (18) (Anchow Jerkins) P.R Westher 8 11 6
	5P-3P0	FOOLS ERPAND (18) (Mrs David Russell G Balting 9 ft 5 S Fox V
		FLAPJACK LAD (40) (D) (T H Ounsley) N Timeston-Dames 10 Tl 4C Lie-milyn
		BOLD ACTION (41) DA's State Beloney J Turner 8 11 3
		MARICA CIT) (D) (Mrs R Oliver) M Docts 9 TO 12
		SMARTY (26) (Mrs Y Brown) Mrs J Plomen 8 10 R
		TREMALLY (28) (Sileword Racing Partnership) T George 8 to 11 T Jeeks
		THREE SAINTS (41) (Downger Coursess Cadogard H Daly 10 10 6 A Magains B
		PINK GBN (31) (Mrs Margaret Francis) M Mesepher 12 10 4 C McCormick (3) Y
		SPACE CAPPA (25) (D) (D G Stephans) Mass V Stephans 11 100
		DEEL CLIAY (19) (4s J R Buckley) Mrs J Buckley 6 100 W Marraton
		ALASKAN HER (20) (C) (J Buren) A Streets 8 100

Cirippe, 12-1 others 1998: Docs Dilomina 9 ti 1 Gery Lyons 16-1 (D Street 6 ran

VERDICT: Jumping errors have severely handered Tramaille, who would otherwise by an interesting containder, while last-time-out efforts count against Marmios and Bold Ac an interesting contander, while lest-time-out efforts count against Marrior and Bold Ac-tion. Flepjack Lad has a longer run of poor torm to overcome but is on an attractive mark now; he did not come to hand until March last season. All of the above have to be

Play Gennes: Most consistent this season and won for the 4th time from 5 outlings at Smittland (2m1), soft) lest month, has found some week races and more to do off an 8th

3.20 WICKHAM NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) 23,000 added 2m 2f 110yds

5 FIRSH GAME (15) GL Moore 5 11 8 Phide
6 NAMES PROFI (SE) MES E Levele 5 11 6 G Bradley
7 3P SHALAMES PROFI (155) T McGoven 6 11 6 C Murray (7)
8 D BLUE CHP (80) T M Jorne 6 11 1 D Galleyher
9 OUL POREST PLORA (16) J Multres 5 11 1 B Callert
10 32-22 KERRY'S CATE (18) P Hedger 7 11 1 Coultier
11 00 MISCONIZIOT (13) Mrs M Jores 5 11 1 X Williamson
12 EMPELS (SER) prioti M Pipe 4 10 7 A P McCoy 6
12 declared BETTING: 8-4 Arlequin De Sou, 100-30 Enipsus, 4-1 High Game, 7-1 Brandon Court, 8-1 Misconduct, Dashsran, 12-1 Marsen, 20-1 others

FORM YERDICT With the ex-french pair Antequan de Sou and Empeus difficua to weigh up this is not a race which can be approached with confidence. HIGH GAME went well enough in a better race on his debut to aug-

3.50 AMBERILEY NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £4,000 added 3m 2f 110yds

(CLASS F) £4,000 added 3m 2f110yds

1 // PPH PARADE RACER (SS) P Marby 8 ft ff ... Mr K R O'Ryes (f)

3 SHOW SATCOTING (6) (CD) K Burter 8 ft 8 ... M Williamson

4 PPH-94 FUREVER DREAMS (15) S Metor 3 ft 3 ... C Webb V

5 #22P9 801.5HE 8ARCM (18) Western 10 07 ... L Cummiss (5)

6 P-54SS DUNNECKS COUNTRY (15) C Texand 9 TI 6 ... J Thrand

7 #3533 ANOTHER CHANCER (15) O Genotic 6 V2 ... L Husband

6 P-06F LETHNIA COTTAGE 25) T McCovern 8 TI 2 ... J Margue 8

9 D64545 ALPHA LEATHER (25) L Grassick 8 D 0 ... Mr J Gressick

9 D64545 ALPHA LEATHER (25) L Grassick 8 D 0 ... Mr J Gressick

18 TTING: 5-4 Pitot Leader, 9-2 Lethnir Cottage, 5-7 Another Chancer,

7-1 Parade Race, 8-1 Sacoting, 10-1 Durnicks Country, 12-1 Alpha Leader,

15-1 Fortwer Dreaming, Bolshie Baron

FORM VERDICT Rice Leader has by far the best recent form, but this ground is Sely to be a lot more testing than the ground he encountered a Huntinodon last month and his trainer hasn't had a winner for a morat. He is worth taking on at a short price with LETRIM COT-TAGE, who receives a lot of weight from the principals and was at the process of running his best-ever race when falling between

(2"/-m, heavy) last time. This trip is against him as he seems better over 2m

4.20 GOSPORT CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £3,500 2m

6f 110yds

» 15 Departed. — Birthrum weight: 10st True handloop weights: Plaid March (st 11th, Blanck Spring per 10th, Smuggler's Point Sat &b, Mester Generosity Set 8th, Missig Set. SETTHKS: 4-1 Plaid Maid, 9-2 Stormath Stag, 11-2 Questaquay, 8-1 Sophie May, Sortiere, 7-1 Airas Soit II, 8-1 Top Note, 10-1 Black Spring, 12-1 Silver Strooo, 14-1 Chief Predator, 16-1 Others.

FORM VEROICT

An open race, it can pay to concentrate on QUISTAQUAY, who has been freshered up by an in-form stable after a couple of poor efforts and is back on a winning handicap mark, Storathful Stag and the improving Plaid Maid.

CHELTENHAM GOLO CUP CHASE (3m 2f 110yds) Was His Ladbrokes Darsins Pride (M Houngaryki) 10-1 10-1 18-1 Cylor Maits & Pipel 10-1 12-1 12-1 10 acurletique (D Nicholson 10-1 10-1 See More Business (P Micholis) 12-1 Boxy Bay (S Share 20-1 Earthmover (F Nichols)

	_		_					
_	-			_				
FIRS					11	* / TT 15 11 -		
LING	FIE	LO 2	2.30			*THE INT	DEPEN	DENT
	C	н	L	s	1	RACING	SFRV	ACES
emai Rock	10-11	45	10-17	8-11	ш			
White	7-2	9-2	41	41	Ш	0891	40 1	一十
H	92	5-1	11-2	5-1		LIVE COMMEN	TARIES	RESULTS
ie	91	12-1	B-1	9-1	Ш			1
Of Our Day	141	10-1	141	14-1	11	LEICESTER	971	981
100	14.1	12-1	8-1	16-1	Ш	FONTWELL	972	982
's Grab Hire	20-1	14-1	18-1	15-1		UNGFIELD	973	983
Each-way a little are colds, placest 1, 2, 3						ALL COUR 0891 2	SES RESU 261 9	TS 70
Provide M. Market	- HE I	i salami		The same of	1 I I	T		

Fercise Town Placin: Fell on his lest 2 outings (1st & 5th), but sound performance on chasing debut at Taunton (2m3t, good) last month when 3rd to Fourth in Line and Connaught Cracket. Good chance if he can repeat that form Hellio Me Merr, Seems better over hundles than fences and was never going well last time when pulled up before 2 out at Folkestone (2m5t, soft) in the race won by First Instance with Jeson's Boy 2nd (treaten 9 lengths). Lyphard's Pables: Selling fundle, title improvement over lengths and looked one peaced when 3rd (beaten 19%, lengths) to Orphan Spa at Folkestone (2m5t, soft) last time. Series Of Value: Matden over fences, talled-off last of 3 fireshes behind Annie Suckers. If Township Coffee over 2nm to This most is accord thin as he seems better over 2 more 2 m VERDICT: Jason's Boy has not always found much at the finish. Celtic Season looks capable of defying top weight if he can overcome also off, but TDM PINCH is worth one more chance, Although he has come to grief in his last two outings he showed promise when third to Fourth in Line at Tauriton last month. The winner has followed up at Newbory and Heydock the selection may confirm the promise he showed on his reappearance behind Native King over hundles at Sandown last month.

FORM GUIDE.

Ever Blessed: Type to well over fences. Placed in useful company over hurdles 6 lengths second of 3 to No Refrest in novice chase at Newbury (2met, good). Should stay 3m. Acts on heavy. The one to best on hurdles and chasing form Herbal Wise: Ran out in an lifsh point. No show in bumpers and novice hurdle Kentish Bend: Promising enough over hurdles but three note over fences this term have seen plenty of jumping errors. Trip should suit, but a nisky proposition (Ring's Banilus: Placed in three novice hurdles, 8-13 when bestern length by Cinion at Miscouries Chast. Could be a fine of the promising permits good to contill Miscouries. Rang's Benteer: Placed in three novice hurdles, 8-15 when besten length by Clinton at Wincardon (2m64, good to soft). Hinted at something better egainst Good Lord Murphy at Sendown time before, but set 2 out. Interesting chase debutant: Pure Air: Sent off at between 40-1 and 200-1 at stants, accomplishing little Resteldm: Won malden point in Ireland in 1997. Little promise on rules debut in novice chase. Well besten at Cheltenhern next time when he had no chance and was not given hard race in hot contest won by Mejadou. Capable of better

A tight-looking content with title to separate Hoborard, Sadier's Secret and PAGASONIC on formines through Dangerus Precedent and Wase Rock. Roborard cannot be reted upon, while Tony NacCoy will be learn to ride a comback wirrer on Sadier's Secret, but Pagaeonic is less exposed and just preferred.

2.20 SELSEY NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) 25,250 added 2m 3f

RIVOR CABALLIS (ISA) 25 Into A J Bowby 6 11 4 D Lashy
05P2P LITCHANENE (FF) (16) J Percrimgo (F) 6 11 4 P Hote
9F/2P MR JERNES (12) J Gifford 10 11 4 P Hote
422 MILLIANTOR (20) (CD) 6 3 ment 6 71 4 L Aspell
0744 SREERIAN HEIGHT (20) (CD) 6 3 ment 6 71 4 C Minute
14 SIR SABULEL (83) K Beloy 6 11 4 N Williamson
PODGLI SAMPT GUY (11) Mrs L Jewel 7 71 4 T Peoples (7)
8001-P LA SREGANTINE (86) R Buckfr 6 10 5 B Powel

- 6 declared -BETTHIG: 13-8 Litchanine, 5-2 Sir Sazzuel, 5-1 Mir Jervia, 8-1 Sibe Henry, 18-1 Mullinter, 12-1 La Brigannine, 20-1 Cabalius, 33-1 Staint

FORM VERDICT

SUR SAMUEL, bolied a bit tentative over tences on his British debut but Kempton wouldn't pe the estiest track for a novice and he is given another change. Litchstoline is an interesting runner from France.

2.50 PORTSMOUTH HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) 26,500 added 2m 2f 110yds

, Minimum weight: 10st. True hendisco weight: Anotherone To Note 7st 2b. BETTING: 4-6 Ettacksal, evens Galant Note, 50-1 Anotherone To Note

FORM VERDICT

GALANT MOSS may be capable of better than he showed on his first start in Britain - his efforts in valuable events in France leave that impression - and he can hold off Effectual, who has been besten

on three previous attempts off a hendicap mark of 127 or 128.

by Hishard Lee. Frost-ninning Carliars up want may sermen who rate been assubly pleabed by Hishard Lee. Frost-ninning Carliars Expenses books ally to comp back to the field on this lesting course, so the choice looks to be between Astral Investion and REACH THE CLOUDS. The later's tirtle to Native Firing at Hereford last month is beginning to look reasonable form with rumar-up Hanglern Out To Dry worning his next two moss, while Astral Invesion holds Centeux Express on their Universe; running and is well handcospped with Pey Games.

6thimum moght: 10st. True handica() weights: Deel Quey Sci 12th, Alaskan Hair 9st 8th BETTING: 9-4 Smarth, 6-1 Bold Action, 7-1 Tremetik, 10-1 Stater Rossa, Flaspinch Led, Mamica, Space Coppe, 12-1 others

#\$80: Does Ditemmit 9 to 1 Gary Lyons 18-1 (D Shaet 6 ran FORM GUIOE States Riossas Below form latest start but reliable enough on previous evidence and should prove effective under these conditions. Expased however John Drummer Front-runne: Inconsisteral and yet to recepture form of less season, but still wan poor race at Pontwell (2nSt, heavy). Unproven at this trip. Fools Errand: Won 3-runner race in Merch 1997. Moetly way below form since, encouragement here only from marked fall in weights and respolication of vecin "Replack Lads Won two handcaps at Cheptatov last spring. Now 7th below last winning mark after poor efforts this term. Also began test season budy Boled Actions Good start to charing carret, second at Newcastle and winning at Henhern (2m11, heavy). Less convincing on faster ground next time. Bit in the state of the there is no sure of the second at Newcastle and winning at Henhern (2m11, heavy). Less convincing on faster ground next time. Poor effort over 3m at Humbridgoin latest start but had form at the trip carrier in carrier.

over 3m at Humingdon letest som but had form at the time wat heat in a cure or smarry: Straped well (but fell) when birkured first time. Won poor malden chase at War-wick (5m2), good to soft) 3 weeks later by 21 lengths, making most, Loss of a stamma-test here is a but of a worry, but 7to hise for text win looks leniont.

Tremaits: 21-length where of 6-numer novices handicap at Bengor (2m4), soft). Undone

Treesalts: 21-length witner of 6-runner rovices handcap at Bargor (2014), soft). Undone by jumping errors on his times other races over fences. First try at 3m. Times Saintita: Well treated on his form of two seasons ago. Occasional fanat of retaining that ability, including on reappearance. Non-stayer over 4mil finest time. Prink Glac Has shown very little over the last 25 months. Space Cappar Unconvencing on vast resignity of efforts over past two years, but managed 141/h lengths third at Tauraton (3m, heavy) two starts ago. 5b lower here also so that one of the short past of the

considered senously, while several of the others also have a chemica, but it is very hard to get away from SMARTY who won so easily on his leaset start. That appeared to be a matricedy improved performance and the race is over 2M shortes; but he is only a 6yo and the chemics are that Smarty has a significant amount in hand on form today.

3.10 DANIEL LAMBERT HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 1f Penalty Value £2,768

SCICED 278 IT POTATIC VALUE 12, 705

TERM PLAY GAMES (USA) (27) (CD) (J O Sesarry Ricer) A Rice Till 12

3-5443 CENTAIR EXPRESS (24) (D) SER (Certair Ricer) A Streets 7 Till 9 M A Ricerard 3 50234 MACHALINI (18) (6 Mts D A Sentish) T George 6 Till 2. C University 4 20-78 PRACH THE CLOUDS (42) (D) SER (Addition Recorp (D) J Upson 7 To 1 . J Supple 5 0-6562 ASTRAL INVASION (24) (CD) (E Weetnér, R & Deen T Well 6 Till 0. Supple 6 4-7050 EBEN AL HASECER (41) (D) (The Barkhouse Contederacy) D McCain 6 Till 5 Wymns 6 declared 6 Machinum weight: 10st. Tive randicip weight: 60st. At National Invasion, 4-1 Machalini, 9-2 Centaur Express, 2-1 Reach The Clouds, 7-2 Autral Invasion, 4-1 Machalini, 9-2 Centaur 1998, No conseponding recu

Australian Open: Kournikova's campaign curtailed as Seles and Graf advance to rekindle great rivalry

Agassi undone by 'journeyman'

BY DERRICK WHYTE in Melbourne

THE AUSTRALIAN Open lost two of its favourites yesterday when the former champion Andre Agassi was abruptly dismissed from the year's first Grand Slam and the somewhat fortunate run of the Russian teenager Anna Kournikova came to an end.

The former French Open champion Yevgeny Kafelnikov almost joined them. The Russian 10th seed was two points from winning in the third set against the Romanian Andrei Pavel, but was made to fight on for a 6-3, 7-6, 6-7, 3-6, 6-4 victory.

If Kafelnikov had gone out, the tournament would have matched the 1997 French Open as the Grand Slam with the fewest seeds in the men's quarter-finals. Only the 15th seed, Todd Martin of the United States, and the seventh seed, Slovakia's Karol Kucera, survived the fourth round.

On the women's side, the former champions Steffi Graf and Monica Seles shone brightly to set up a quarter-final that rekindles one of the great rivalries of modern tennis.

Vincent Spadea, described by former champion Agassi last year as a mere "journeyman", scored his biggest career victory by beating his compatriot 6-1, 7-5, 6-7, 6-3. Spadea has developed a taste for beating big names, upsetting Agassi, Petr Korda, Pat Rafter and Richard Krajicek - all Grand Slam winners - during the 1998 North American hardcourt seas

The world No 44 showed cast-iron nerves to run a sługgish Agassi from one side of the court to another. The Las Vegan began slowly and sputtered to life only briefly in the third set. "It's real disappointing." Agassi lamented. "Grand Slams are just an opportunity to do something great."

Mary Pierce, the 1995 Open champion and seventh seed, beat Kournikova 6-0, 6-4 - but there was little in the Russian's game to suggest that sbe, too, bad been seeded.

Kournikova has had a fairly disastrous tournament and served an embarrassing 54 double-faults as she scraped past lesser opponents in the first two rounds. Her service problems became the butt of jokes by other players, including her doubles partner, Martina Hingis. But in this match she served only five doublefaults against the Frenchwoman. though three of them came in a 19minute first set.

However, the 17-year-old Russian put a positive spin on her Melbourne



Melbourne departures: Andre Agassi buries his face in a towel after yesterday's defeat while Anna Kournikova receives medical help to no avail

appearances. "I feel good right now about my serve. I feel like I could put In 100 balls in a row and that's the good thing about it," she claimed.

Pierce's next opponent will be the world No 2 and defending champion, Hingis, whom she has beaten five times in their nine previous meetings. Hingis battled the heat and a determined Amanda Coetzer, of South Africa, on an outside court before emerging a 6-3, 6-7, 6-1 winner.

The Swiss teenager lost ber way

in the second set and called for a break, allowed under the rules when the temperature exceeds 28C - and it was then 31C. She re-emerged refreshed to regain momentum and set up her fourth consecutive quarterfinal in Melbourne.

Martin overcame the unseeded Zimbawean Wayne Black 7-6, 6-4, 6-4. Kucera meets the unsung Nicolas Lapentti, of Ecuador, in the quarterfinals today. Spadea will play Tommy Haas in the quarter-finals after the

Santoro, of France, 6-2, 6-3, 7-5.

Kafeinikov claimed the last quarter-final place after his Centre Court marathon. He seemed to be coasting bome after be won the first two sets and led 5-3 in the third-set tie-break before Pavel fought back. The unseeded Romanian strung four points in a row to take the third set then broke Kafelnikov in the ninth game

of the fourth to square the match. Kafelnikov failed to serve out the

unseeded German beat Fabrice match after breaking Pavel in the on to Centre Court and spent exactfinal set for 5-2 but broke him again in the following game to claim victory after three hours 33 minutes.

Graf and Seles, who have won eight Australian Open titles between them, will meet in the quarter-finals tomorrow. Graf, seeded 10th and champion in Melbourne from 1988 to 1990 and again in 1994, overpowered the unseeded Austrian baseliner, Barbara Schett, 6-1, 6-1 in 47 minutes. Seles, the No 6 seed, followed Grad

ly the same amount of time there. She worked only slightly harder to beat the 14th seed, France's Sandrine Testud, 6-0, 6-3 to extend ber unbeaten run in Melbourne to 32 matches.

Graf and Seles have not met in a Grand Slam since the German won the 1996 US Open final. "You know you're going to have to raise your level of game but I try, try to be up for each match." Seles said of her rematch.

Results, Digest, page 23

Peace process put to the vote

BY CHRIS HEWETT

THE LUNATICS may be in charge of the asylum, but at least they are moderate lunatics. The ancien régime of the English game, the Rugby Football Union, has formed a united front with the nouveaux riches of the Allied Dunbar Premiership to reaffirm as sacrosanct the promotion clauses contained in the much abused Mayfair Agreement and, at a stroke, laid firm foundations for a positive conclusion to the political upbeavals of the last year.

Yesterday's communique, issued jointly by the two bodies, made it clear that this season's Premiership Two champions would be automat ically promoted to the top flight of whatever league or conference competition is put in place for next season and that the runners-up would get their tilt at the big time via the play-off mechanism agreed last spring. Those guarantees will almost certainly signal the end of Bristol's cynical plot to buy their way into the new élite by taking over the commercially challenged exiles of London Scottish. It also appears to rule out any immediate move towards a 10-team Anglo-Welsh league.

A wide-ranging conference sys-tem involving legitimate contenders from both existing Premiership divisions and Wales seems likely to win favour at today's meeting of English. First Division Rugby's executive, which aims hammer out a final blueprint for next season's competitive structure. It is, as every serious rugby thinker is beginning to understand, the only solution that gives all parties an opportunity to extricate themselves from holes of

their own making.
Public rumblings of discontent from a number of organisations, including English Second Division Rugby and the National Clubs Association, prompted yesterday's diplomatic offensive. "In recent days, much speculation and understandable concern has surfaced from clubs? within the Allied Dunbar and Jewson? leagues as to the effect of the creation of a new cross-border competition," the RFU-EFDR axis acknowledged before reiterating their support for the principles enshrined in the Mayfair Agreement and ensuring all clubs, even those outside the national

leagues, their full say in the debate. Meanwhile, Bath face a tortuous wrangle with local pressure groups over imaginative plans to spend £30m on transforming the Recreation Ground into a stadium fit for the sporting high society of the 21st century. The European champions at least for another five days - want virtually to double the Rec's capactity to 15,000 by rebuilding their west stand and constructing a new, grass-roofed east stand that would be boused underground when not in

"We have magnificent support; we are one of the very few clubs to show increased attendances this season." said the Bath coach, Andy Robinson, yesterday. "I would love to make this place a Leicester or a Gloucester. When you go to Welford Road or Kingsbolm, the noise is amazing."

Sadly for Robinson and his club, some interested Bathonians prefer beritage to noise. "The Recreation Ground is the village green of the city and my own view is that the rugby club might be better off elsewbere; somewhere without the same restrictions and costs involved," said Major Anthony Crombie of the Bath Society. Another group, the Friends of the Rec, also greeted the re-building plans with a loud raspberry. The council chamber battle will run

Prost stresses positives

WHEN THE most experienced Formula One driver of all time admits to "feeling more nervous than ever" approaching a new season, you have a measure of the weight beaped on his slender shoulders.

Alain Prost, who won 51 grands prix and four world championships, confronted a very different life as a team owner last season, his charges mustering a mere one point to finish ninth of 11 entrants in the constructors' standings. Like his British counterpart, Jackie Stewart, be knows things must improve this year. The French nation, sponsors and engine partners Peugeot - much coveted by other camps - could scarcely countenance another failure.

Prost unveiled his new car, the AP02, at his new factory, south-west of the capital yesterday maintaining he can meet the demands of the challenge. He has the facilities, a 200strong workforce, the design brain of John Barnard and two respected drivers, Olivier Panis and Jarno Trulli on which to base his optimism.

"I feel even more nervous going into this year because 1998 was a disappointment," Prost said. "Everyone is waiting for us to perform so there is pressure, but now I believe it is positive pressure because everyone bere knows where we are going. "I have no regrets about taking on

FOOTBALL

NATIONWIDE POOTBALL LEAGUE

AUTO WINDSCREENS SHELD

7.30 unless stated
WORTHINGTON CUP
SEMI-PINAL FIRST LEG
Idenland v Lexester (7.45).........

Boutnemouth v Preston (7.45).....

OUARTER-FINALS
Hartiepool v Lincoln Oty 17 45)

NATIONMIDE CONFERENCE Hayes v Dover (7.45) Yeovil v Forest Green (7.45)

SECOND DIVISION

THIRD DIVISION

SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

FA XI Jat Stalybridge Celtic FC).

KYIMAN LEAGUE First: Division: Romford v
Staines 17.45). Second Division: Abingdon Rown
v Hungerford [7.45); Barstead v Barking: Chalfort St Peter v Northwood: Edgware v Toolingd Mitcham (7.45); Horsham v Thame [7.45); Windsor & Eton v Bedford Town [7.45); Windw (7.45); Third Division: Avedey v Lewes (7.45).
Clapton v Flackwell Heath [7.45); Corinthian-Ca-

Fulham v Oldham (7.45) Macdesfield v Milhvall (7.45) ...

THIRD DIVISION
Peterborough v Hull (7.45)

Rochdale v Stoke (7.45),

Carilsle v Wigan 17.451

Forlar v Clyde (7.45)

MOTOR RACING

BY DERICK ALLSOP in Paris

my own team. In fact, I have even more motivation now. Last year was difficult because the car was not good, we had a new factory and we were making lots of changes.

"I cannot say when we will win the championship. Ferrari have not won the drivers' title for 20 years. But I do believe we will improve and keep improving. I think McLaren and Ferrari will still be ahead, and maybe Williams will improve. But then there are three, four or five teams fighting together, we would like to be with them. It is not easy and would be embarrassing if British American Racing beat us. But it is very competitive.

"John Barnard will be a big help. He is working from England, working on his own ideas and advising us. We go back a long way to the early 1980s at McLaren. It was working with John that I appreciated the importance of a driver and engineer working together. I won two of my championships with him."

Prost, guided by Barnard, has concentrated efforts on improving aerodynamics, and in particular the front end of the car. Barnard, who

TODAY'S FIXTURES

suals v Southall: Kingsbury v Epsom & Ewell (7.45); Ware v Camberley (7.45); Isthanian League Cup hird round: Sutton IEd v Basingstoke: Third-round replays Aldershot v Berkhamsted (7.45). Poma Cup Second round: Dulwich v Hampton: Third round: Carshallon Athlete v Walton & Hersham; Oxford City v Wealdstone.

DR MARTEMS LEAGUE Presider Divisions: Merthyr Tydfil v Goucester. League Cup third round: Folkestone v St Leonards; Witney v Dorchester.

UNIBOND LEAGUE CUP Third round: Chorley v Acorington Stanley: Farsley v Gateshead, Unitalia First Division Cup second round: Witton Albon v Gretna (7.45). Third round: Droylsden v Bradlord PA.

Bradlord PA.
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE Premier Di-wiskom Beckenham v Sheppey, Deal v Whitstable: Slade Green v Tunbridge Wells.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE Pre-

UNDET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE First Di-vision: Whitehawk v Hailsham.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Divisio

Bristington v Melksham (7.45): Mangotsfield v Veo [7.45]: Odd Down v Chippenham (7.45): We-bury v Backwell (7.45); Bishop Sutton v Keynsha

DUTY V BOOWCH (7-45); BISHOP SURTON V REYNSHAM.

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE FIRST DIVISIONE BOOME V ARHERTON LE: MOSSIEV V SAllord;
PRESOX Cables V Leek CSOB. Floodiff: Trophy first
round second legs Arterton Collectes V Warrington. Third round: Rossendale V Darwen.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE PresVISIONED ROUND RESEARCH COUNTIES FAST LEAGUE Pres-

Science Cup Pourth round: Armihorpe Welfare v Thackley: Malitby Main v Hall Road; North Ferri-by v Louth.

OY VEGULIA.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND INVITATION

CUP Third round: Odbury v Atherstone: Witerhall

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: Brockenhurst v Gosport Borough.

JEWSON EASTERN LEAGUE CUP Quarter-fi-nais (7.4S): Dereham v Sudbury Wanderers; Diss v Histon.

built his reputation at McLaren. and reinforced it at Ferrari and Renetton, said: "Alain and I understand each other and this role is just what I was looking for. I don't want to be in the frontline. I want to work on my own concepts."

Panis is equally anxious to assert himself this year after struggling last season with plates in his lower legs following a serious accident in Canada in the summer of 1997. He said: "Last year, I had this dark cloud over me. I spoke to Alain about it but I hid some of this from him because be had enough problems. The surgeon warned me that if I had another accident and twisted the plates my career would be over so this was always at the back of my mind. But I had to take the risk. If you are out of Formula One for six months people can forget you."

Peugeot has produced an improved engine and promised an updated version four races into the season, with a further development in the summer All of which intensifies the pressure for Prost

Meanwhile, in Barcelona vesterday Williams launched the car they bope will take the team back to the front of the grid. Williams failed to score a victory for the first time in 10 years last season as they also lost their constructors' crown.

SNAFRHOFF INISH LEAGUE Premier Division: Glenavon v Portadown, First Division: Bangor v Ards: Limaway Utd v Dungannon Swifts, LEAGUE OF IKALES: Holywell v Comparison Town,

PONTINS LEAGUE Premier Division: Leeds v Nottingham Forest (7.0).

Notingnam Forest (1.0).
THE TIMES FA WOUTH CUP Tided round: Gillingham v Lekester City. Third-round replay: Walsall v lottenham. Fourth round: Ipswch v Work.
(7.0); Evertan v Swindon (1.0); Saton Villa v Huddersfield (7.0) Scunthorpe v Middlesbrough (7.0).

RUGBY UNION

ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP ONE dumond v Lexester (8.0).....

CHELTENHAM AND GLOUCESTER CUP FIRST ROUND SECOND LEG

Pontypridd v Georgia (7 0)

POOL B

Ebbw Vale v Gouteng Falcons (7.0)

Llanell v Romania (7.0)

CLUB MATCHES: Cambridge University v British Police [7 15], Royal Navy v Devon [7.0] (at Rec-

ICE HOCKEY

SEKONIDA SUPERLEAGUE: Newcastle Riverk Inga v Nortingham Panthers (7 15).

OTHER SPORTS

SNOOKER: Regal Welsh (Cardiff International Arena).

Orrell v Sale (7.15)

POOL A Neath v Canada (7.0)

Hacker honoured

HOCKEY BY BILL COLWILL

CAROLYN REID, the Hightown and England goalkeeper, and David Hacker, the Canterbury centre-half

and Welsh captain, received the Hockey Writers' UK Player of the Year awards at a reception in London vesterday. Reid. 26, becomes the third Hightown player to receive the award following Linda Carr and Maggie

Souvave the current England coach. The schoolmistress at St Nicholas Roman Catholic School in Northwich established berself with a string of outstanding performances as the first-choice keeper outdoors at last year's World Cup in Utrecht and went on to win a silver medal at the Commonwealth Games in Malaysia.

The gold medal winner at the 1996 European Indoor Cup is now setting ber sights on this summer's Euro pean Cup in Germany and then a se lection for the Olympics to add to be one Great Britain appearance so far.

Wales' David Hacker became the first non-Englisb player to win the men's award Hacker collected a host of bonours with Hounslow including the League Championship and the HA Cup four times as well as the European Cup-Winners' Cup.

Now in his fifth season with Canterbury, Hacker, a schoolmaster at Millfield School, has played a pivotal role in taking the Kent side to the top of the English game. Canterbury lead this year's campaign, two points ahead of Cannock.

Hacker, an inspirational captain of Wales with over 100 caps, also stepped into the coach's role at the Commonwealth Games in September when David Bunyan was unable to travel because of his fear of flying.

TOMORROW

TONY MCCOY, CHAMPION JOCKEY, TALKS TO BRIAN VINER

Reid and | New sponsor keeps **Boat Race afloat**

THE OXFORD and Cambridge Boat Race, in danger of sinking without the belp of a sponsor before this year's contest on 3 April, was floated yesterday by Aberdeen Asset Management, a financial services company looking to establish a name for

Aberdeen wants the sporting public to be aware of its existence. while race organisers want someone to help them in the coming decade of intense competition for television audiences. Despite the security of a new six-year contract with the BBC. the Boat Race has to find a way to keep its appeal as an amateur race between students while still providing first-rate sporting entertain-

itself outside Scotland.

The sponsor is, in part, compensating for the fact that the race is a free show, run down the middle of the River Thames with no chance of raising gate money. The standard of the race has remained at the same level, close below Olympic performance in recent history, and the

BY HUGH MATHESON

record time was set in 1998 by a crew which bad the same stern pair as the German national eight which won silver at the World Championships three months later.

The coaching staff in each place is international in origin and calibre. Sean Bowden, at Oxford, spent three years as British national eight coach. while Robin Williams, at Cambridge, used four Oxford men in his Under-23 national eight last summer. It is the opportunity of rowing with coaches of this standard which keeps top-

class academic oarsmen applying. The sponsorship comes just in time for Oxford, where plans are being developed to subsume the sport into a university-wide union. in which rowing might well have been lost altogether. The club bas been fighting hard to retain its independence from the dead band of central administration.

Wakefield capture Leeds' Kemp

WAKEFIELD TRINITY, the Super League newcomers, have made their biggest signing yet in preparation for the challenge ahead by enlisting Leeds' New Zealand Test fit as he has been for several seastand-off, Tony Kemp.

Kemp, just turned 31, played 16 times for the Rhinos last season, but the difficult decision was made to save money on a tight budget by releasing him. Trinity, rebuilding completely as they try to put together a competitive side for the coming season, moved for the Kiwi international, capped 15 times, signing him on a two-year deal.

"As soon as we were alerted that he might be surplus, our chief executive. Steve Ferres, worked very hard to bring him to Wakefield." said the Trinity coach, Andrew Kelly. "We feel we've been recruiting on the right lines but we needed an on-field leader. He has the profile and the

Kemp was Leeds' first choice stand-off last season, but he has had three years interrupted by a variety of injuries. "We have had discussions about that and he feels that he is as

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY DAVE HADFIELD

sons," Kelly said. "We bave shown with this signing that we mean business. I am still keeping my eyes open. because I would like to bring in another back and another forward."

Leeds' decision to release Kemp, formerly with Doncaster and the Newcastle Knights, is a mark of their confidence in two young players. Karl Pratt and Kevin Sinfield, who could both stake a claim for the stand-off role this year. They also have the veteran, Daryl Powell, and the current Great Britain stand-off, Iestyn Harris, who played most of his club rugby last season at full-back.

The other new club in Super League next season, Gatesbead Thunder, have reacted with caution to suggestions that they might bring Va'aiga Tuigamala back into rugby league this season, but they are to give a chance to a player they describe as "the new Inga".

The financial problems at New-

castle Falcons mean that Tuigamala may be available on loan this summer, but Gateshead's founder, Kath Hetherington, said: "He would have to take a big pay cut to play for us. If be was available at the right cost, we would love to have him, but it's entirely up to Newcastle."

Wigan, where Tuigamala eventually became a success in rugby league, have ruled themselves out of any move to bring him "home" - although they are still owed the bulk of the transfer fee. Humble Whitehaven, however, have already made him an offer to play for them in the First Division on a match-by-match basis. Whitebaven's new coach, Kevin Tamati, is a friend of Tuigamala's and has had talks with him, without the ambitious plan being rejected.

Meanwhile, Epi Taione, a fellow Tongan introduced to Gateshead by Tuigamala will play part of the Thunder's friendly at Castleford on Friday night. "He has been playing local rugby union, but be is even bigger than inga and has to be worth a look," said Hetherington of the 18-stone

Jub but there has been an rease in the faiched to const

ntractones to Reading From

brash out a compromise d Her months of harding 1

England strike 12 second

week and was reid there and

e no more money from

resterday that A wind we being Victimismi or references met by a form to bus rom s jonales of contract found an united they in ormer Gunnery Manuager Bergiasto Williams he wake of the second tup win asserts the law Sunday, during namuel Peut became the chit eventh plants eason and the test sin irsene Wenger in Comme 1775 ger in Septer Bergkamp so. 5 3.4 ye

were being ecause of the Line and putterfor or indiscipling me the Durch striker was Decisions of a madaging s because our line more uni take those co. s . . . Arto WENGER'S A Tony Adam lar Wright

Jers Harts Demois Bet Teny Adam 1 May 196 Japan Crow 14 Oct 199 Emmanue! Patrick Vie 17 Jan 1996 Patrick Vie 19 Feb 1991 Donnis Set (7 Mail 1965) 31 Mar 145 Wartin Red Emmanuel LCC DIXOR Martin Bre 26 Sep : ## : Pay Pariou 25 No. 11 20 Peu 199 : G. er. Curista Part ch Wie CC Court

Eritre



EDITED BY RUPERT MI TOAL

Storm rou

MANCHESTER STORM TO mained four points clear c Cardiff Devils after ooth side recorded Sunday thetheries it the Sekonda Superies gue. Jeff Jablones: destroye ewcastle Riverlangs with alar goal haul as Storm ran ou

60 winners Manchester ha brashed New Castle In Learlie SNOW REPORTS

SKI HOTLINE First, obtain the access code for the reson of your choice for Fa. 0870 51 GO 843 title fax lists codes for 180 re-

lo listen to the largest show and because report Phone 0901 47 70 051 + code

hy a fax Copy of the lates: Strown a 0906 55 00 036 + code SNAPSHOT Advantage four-page summer; of for 0906 55 00 601

^{httplane:} 0870 51 33 345 On or off pists

SENTATIVE MATCH: UniBond League v

סבטיטועים ן

The the charge

See the area

the prome in the prome in the man exactions to consider to

of action

Section Contraction

14

and of Enga

- Sangles

- 10 Sept

-11- - 24.01

فالأعد يا

- Farmenting

Tarih 129 - 29

* ** · *

ರು ಎಚ್ಚುದ್ದು

್ ಕಾರ್ಪದಲ

2 17 20 kg

17-56

• •

** 5 74.+2

- ----

7 227

12 125

. . . .

- ----

.

. . . - - -

hemp

Section 19

HI INDEPENDENT

THE INDEPENDENT Tuesday 26 January 1999 LIVERPOOL HAVE made a new contract offer to Robble Fowler, and to give the summer. LIVERPOOL HAVE made a new contract offer to Robble Fowler, and to give the summer. So I Sam NIXON With wages, signing-on fees and loyalty payments Fowler to than have interest the last of occurs and loyalty payments Fowler will become the best-paid play and loyalty payments Fowler will become the best-paid play the contract now, rather than have interest the last of occurs and loyalty payments Fowler will become the best-paid play the contract now, rather than have interest the last of occurs and loyalty payments Fowler will become the best-paid play the contract now, rather than have interest the last of occurs and loyalty payments Fowler will become the best-paid play the contract now, rather than have interest the last of occurs and loyalty payments Fowler to the prompted to form Lens to West Ham fielder Mar-Vivine Fow expected you completed his move in factor to his first-leam plasm of extract in his first-leam plasm. The Cameroon intercation, middleder Mar-Vivine Fow expected was mode of 7830. Dimdee have signed Coven by exserted you completed his move in factor of his first-leam plasm of extraction in first-leam plasm of the summer. With wages, signing-on fees and loyalty payments Fowler will be come the best-paid play to form Lens to West Ham fielder Mar-Vivine Fow expected was move to the part of his present deal with the form Lens to West Ham fielder Mar-Vivine Fow expectations of the summer. The Cameroon intercation, middleder Mar-Vivine Fow expectations made of 7830. Dimdee have signed Coven by expected was move to the summer. The Cameroon intercation, middleder Mar-Vivine Fow expectation of the summer. The Cameroon intercation, middleder Mar-Vivine Fow expectation of the summer. The Cameroon intercation in middleder Mar-Vivine Fow expectation of the summer. The Cameroon intercation in middleder Mar-Vivine Fow expectation of the summer. The Cameroon intercation in mid

week and was told there would be no more money from the club, but there has been an increase in the package.

talks on ice for the rest of the season. The Republic of Ireland international has said that he does not want to discuss his

been good for me, hut I've also been good for them."

The chances of the Brazilian

of signing him," he said. "We will talk to their chairman, Steve Gibson, next week. We get

valued at £2.5m by his German club, MSV Duisburg.

Barnsley expect to sign the Queen's Park Rangers striker

Newton Aycliffe official at the end of a highly charged 3-2 defeat against West Bromwich st The Hawthorns in November,

from the Norwegian club, Rosenborg Trondheim. The former Coveotry target played for the Dons against Man-

Hartlepool United want Chris Waddle to become their new manager, in succession to Mick Tait. The former England winger, who was in charge at Burnley last season, is now helping out with coaching at Sheffield Wednesday.

Terry Christie has left Stenhousemuir after six and a half years in charge to become the new manager of Alloa. He succeeds Tom Heodrie, who has

CANADA ME Bergkamp fuels conspiracy theory Control of the same

DENNIS BERGKAMP'S claim yesterday that Arsenai were being victimised by referees was met by a fervent rehuttal from a leading official, who found an unlikely ally in a

former Gunners manager. Bergkamp was speaking in the wake of Arsenal's 2-1 FA Cup win against Wolves on Sunday, during which Emmanuel Petit became the club's seventh player to be sent off this season and the 19th since Arsène Wenger became manager in September 1996.

Bergkamp said that players were being unfairly dealt with because of the club's reputation for indiscipline. "I know that for sure," the Dutch striker said.

"Decisions are going against us because of it. If the men who make those decisions know

26 Nov 1996

30 Nov 1996

21 Dec 1996

1 Jan 1997 ...

1 May 1997

26 Oct 1997 ...

14 Oct 1997

18 Feb 1998

17 Mar 1998

31 Mar 1998

29 Aug 1998 ...

9 Sep 1998 ...

26 Sep 1998

25 Nov 1998

20 Dec 1998 .

The striker's claim that Arsenal are being persecuted has provoked an instant response. By Nick Harris

about the reputation before the game then it can count against us. We have players booked, and sometimes it's hard to understand why."

Philip Don, the Premier League referees' officer, said he was sure that there was no anti-Highbury conspiracy. "Referees go out to do a job and call it as they see it," he said, and added it was not in his officials' interests to make victims of anyone. "Referees cannot afford to go and victimise teams.

"There are independent observers at every game and referees get marked down [for

v Liverpool

v Newcastle

v Sunderland

v Birmingham

v Middlesbrough

v Forest

v Derby

v Coventry

v West Ham

v Bolton

v Chariton

v Chelsea

v Lens

v Leeds

v Charlton

v Woives

v Sheff Wed

v Villa

WENGER'S RED CARD REIGN

Steve Bould

... Tony Adams

John Hartson

"Dennis Bergk

.Jason Crowe

..Emmanuel Petit

..Patrick Vielra

.Patrick Vieira

..Dennis Bergka

.. Martin Keown

...Ray Parlour

...Gilles Grimandi

CC: Coca-Cola Cup; PL: Premier League: FA: FA Cup; EC: European Cup

...Patrick Vieira

Emmanuel Petit

....lan Wright

.....Tony Adams

making errors]. At least 90 per cent of Premier League referees get marks of seven [out of 101 or above And this season I think it's around 95 per cent."

Although he was unwilling to comment on specific cases, Don said that if a referee believed a player had used abusive language to any official, then the rules had be enforced. Steve Dunn, officiating at the Wolves game, said Petit was sent off for abusing a linesman.

"Strong language to an assistant is the same as to a referee," Don said. "It's a sendingoff offence without a shadow of a doubt."

Petit's dismissal on Sunday was the second time he has seen red this season, the first occasion being against Charlton in August. His red card at Wolves was due to bad language and he incurred one of his two yellow cards at Charlton for dissent. Although Lee Dixon, Martin

Keown, Ray Parlour, Gilles Grimandi and Patrick Vieira have all also been sent off since last August, only Dixon has been dismissed for mistimed fouls alone committed during the course of a match.

Ray Parlour was dismissed against Lens for kicking Cyril Rool's head; Grimandi was sent off for butting Leeds' Alan



Emmanuel Petit becomes the seventh Arsenal player to be sent off this season during Sunday's cup tie Empics

red card for elbowing Charlton's Neil Redfearn,

Keown may have bad his ban rescinded on appeal following his involvement as a peacemaker in the Paolo Di Canio incident at Hillsborough, hut Arsenal would still seem to be the victims of their own loability to control tempers, whatev-

Smith, and Vieira was shown a subjected to and whatever they entirely to blame for the north believe the pre-conceived attitudes of the match officials

For all their manager's protestations of victimisation -"I am very upset by what has happened and I just ask for an honest referee, that's all," Wenger said on Sunday-there er provocation they are at times stalwarts, that referees are not out being competitive.

Londoners' problems.

The Gunners' former manager, Terry Neil, conceded: "One thing is sure and that's it's not a healthy situation. I'm sure words have been spoken in private [about behaviour at the clubl." He added: "You don't win what Arsenal football is a feeling, even among Arsenal club have over the years with-

"The people I've got most sympathy for in football are referees.

Part of Arsenal's problem. Neil added, is that officials have to act on strict mandates from Fifa. "People don't get sent off these days for sticking one on someone," he said. "It only takes a word, a gesture."

Both of which, Arsenal play-

O'Neill plots fall of past heroes

MARTIN O'NEILL, the Leicester City manager, is intent on shattering the Wembley dreams of the club he supported as a youngster when his side takes on Sunderland in the first leg of the Worthington Cup semi-final tonight.

O'Neill's boyhood hero was Charlie Hurley, the former Sunderland and Northern Ireland. hard man and he still has great affection for the First Division leaders. But sentiment will be put aside as he attempts to lead Leicester to their second League Cup final appearance in three years after their 1997 triumph over Middlesbrough.

O'Neill said: "They [Sunderland] were always my team when I was growing up. I have always had a soft spot for them. But any time I have been in opposition to them as a player or manager, that sentiment has gone out of the window. This time will be no different."

O'Neill will check the fitness of the striker Tony Cottee, who missed Saturday's FA Cup defeat by Coventry with a calf strain. If he is ruled out, then O'Neill's options are limited on a partner for Emile Heskey. At the weekend he broke up Muzzy Izzet's effective midfield partnership with Neil Lennon and pushed him into the forward line.

The Sunderland captain, Kevin Ball, said: "If we want to beat them, we've got to match ers seem to have a fondness for their determination and spirit."

Eritrea and Mauritius shock the giants of Africa



RUPERT METCALF

ERITREA AND Mauritius enjoyed success in the African Nations' Cup qualifiers at the weekend, embarrassing two of the continent's 1998 World Cup

Eritrea marked their home debut in the tournament with a goalless draw against trouhled Cameroon, while the In- to implement a new football addian Ocean island of Mauritius ministration structure.

held South Africa to a 1-1 draw. Meanwhile, the World Cup finalists Nigeria looked far from convincing in their 2-0 home win over Burundi.

The embarrassing draw in Eritrea was a further setback for Cameroon They were suspended briefly at the start of the year by Fifa, world football's ruling body, for refusing

As for South Africa, a team loaded with Europe-based professionals were favourites to romp home against Mauritius. But Desiré Periatambée, who plays for the French Second Division club Troyes, struck a

second-half equaliser after

South Africa had led at half-

time through the former Leeds striker, Phil Masinga. "We were let down by our midfield," the South African Burundi looked the hetter side.

for Bolton, said. "They never created enough for the strikers to have any real chances."

In Nigeria, goals from Garbal Lawal and Finidi George gave the home team victory over Burundi in the first competitive match in charge for their new coach, Thijs Libregts - but an anticipated goal deluge did not materialise as

A SPECTACULAR performance from the Brazilian striker Edmundo in Fiorentina's 3-0 away win against Empoli on Sunday night not only kept the Florence club on top of Serie A but effectively scotched rumours of turmoil within their squad.

Fioreotina's victory saw them maintain a three-point lead over second-placed Lazio.

Lazio two weeks ago, their coach, Giovanni Trapattoni, hit out at his players, telling them to stop squabhling.

It had been suggested that Edmundo and the Portuguese midfielder, Rui Costa, refuse to pass the ball to one another. However, on Sunday Rui Costa said: "Tve always considered Edmundo a great player, one of the best in the world."

GOLF

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of men who went on trial in Moscow yesterday accused of the 1997 contract killing of the head of the Russian ice hockey federation. The case was postponed on three previous

occasions after the main defendant was taken ill.

Storm rout keeps Cardiff at bay

MANCHESTER STORM remained four points clear of Cardiff Devils after both sides recorded Sunday victories in the Sekonda Superleague.

Jeff Jablonski destroyed Newcastle Riverkings with a Jur-goal haul as Storm ran out 6-0 winners. Manchester had thrashed Newcastle 10-1 earlier

this season to equal the biggest winning margin in a Superleague game, and were four goals clear by the 11th minute, the rout started by Pierre Allard after 17 seconds. Brad Rubacuk claimed Storm's other goal.

goals finally saw the Devils dismiss London Knights 3-0. A 7-3 victory in Nottingham the previous night appeared to take its toll on Paul Heavey's side, who held on to Nicky Chinn's opener for long periods of the game, but Derry Menard and Martin Lindman scored to keep Cardiff

In Wales, two third-period in touch with Manchester.

Last

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Birmingham Bullets 78 London Towers &6; Edinburgh Rocks 71 Tharnes Valley Tigers 69; Chester Jess 58 Mi-ton Keynes Lions 8B. BUDWEISER LEAGUE TABLE Sheffield Sharks 21
Blanchester Glasts 21
Derby Storm 20
Thames Valley Tigers 22
London Towers 21
Birmhogham Bullets 22
Gft London Leopards 19
Leicester Riders 21
Eduburgh Rocks 18
million Keynes Lloss 19

BASKETBALL

CRICKET The English Cricket Board are to step up their efforts to remove racism

FA CARLING

PREMIERSHIP

nbledon v West Ham1 ay: Arsenal v Chelsea, Charlton v Man

from the game. The sport's governing body have drawn up a mission statement, setting out their aims to ensure equal opportunities. And one of the ECB's targets is to "establish action plans to combat racial disadvantage and discrimination". SECOND ONE-DAY INTERNATIONAL (Fast London, SA): West Indies 292 for 9 (5 Chanderpaul 150, C L Hooper 108: 5 M Poliock 6-35); South Africa 249 (1 H Kalls 51, M V Boucher 51). West Indies woon by 43 runs AMERICAN FOOTBALL Chicago Bears have recruited Dick Jauron as their new head coach af-ter suffering the embarrassment of Dave McGinnins rejecting the job just before he was due to be presented at a press conference. Jauron was formerly defensive co-ordinator with Jacksonville Jaguars.

SPORTING DIGEST

England Under-19 have a first-in-England Under-19 have a first-in-nings lead of 68 against an Auck-land Emerging Players XI after the second day in Wellington yesterday. The tourists began the day on 66 without loss in reply to the hosts' total of 209 and looked set for a big score after the openers Ian Flana-gan (93) and Michael Gough (73) put on 153. However, after Charles Haywood was trapped low for 24, England were 222 for 4. They then lost their last six wickets for 55 rurs. TOUR MATCH (MERGERON, NZ): Auckland

TOUR MATCH (Mellington, NZ): Auckland Emerging Players 209 (R King 66: GR Bridge 4-36): England Under-19 277 (IN Harasgan 93, M A Gough 73: 5 Silva 4-48). 99, M A GOUgh 73: S Site 4-48).
TOUR MATCH (Guallor, Ind; final day of three): Pakistan 334 for 6 dec and 272 (Salim Malk 122, Inzamarn-ut-Haq 96; I. R Shukis 4-38, O Ganesh 4-78); India A 276 and 111 for 5 [S Ramesh 56). Match drawn. BUSTA CUP (Third day of Four): Kingstone Guyana 215: Jamaka 208 (J C Adams 64; M Nagamootoo 4-36)

CYCLING Richard Virenque, the French rider, will make his debut for the Polti team in the Paris to Nice race from 8 to 15 March. Virenque will race along-side the winner of the 1997 Giro d'Italia, Ivan Gotti, who will start his season with the Laigueglia trophy on 16 February.

FOOTBALL Alain Giresse, the former France mid-fielder, has been appointed new coach of Toulouse, in succession to Guy Lacombe, who was dismissed Guy Lacombe, who was dismissed after the club were knocked out of the French Cup by the amaceur side Jura Sud Foot on Saturday.

79 CUP Firth-round fluture changes: San 14 Feb; Manchester Urd v Fulham; Newcaste v Blackburn (front 13 Feb).

TRANSFER: Stave Prancis (goalkeeper) Huddersfield to Northampton (free)
SUNDAY 'S LATE RESULTS: Icalient Lagues: Empol O Floendina 3 (Heirrich 78. Rui Costa 81, Edmundo 83). Spanish Leagues: Empol O Floendina 3 (Heirrich 78. Finers 23, 71, Pauleta 38) Real Macind O. Portuguase Leagues: Potto 7 Beira Mar O. African Nacional Cup Group Four [Lu-

GOLF BOB HOPE CLASSIC | Palm Springs, Califf Leading Mail-resend scores (US unjess stated); 324 O Ducal 70 T 16 A 70 59, 335 5 Pate 66 70 64 69 66, 336 1 Huston 63 73 71 63 66 339 8 Estes 68 71 65 67 68; F Funk 65 68 66 69 71, 340 5 Kendali 67 73 66 64 70, 341 1 Magger 69 72 66 68 366 342 P Goydos 67 77 69 70 64; I Sturman 68 68 70 68 68; K Sutherland 69 72 66 67 68, 343 R Allenby (Ausj 70 70 67 70; 66; 5 Verplank 67 71 67 67 71, 344 P Jacobsen 66 72 70 70 65; T fryba 69 72 68 69 66; J Maginnes 70 70 70 68 66; T Pernice Jnr 63 72 66 74 69; G Hjertstedt (Swej 67 74 65 67 71. NAPLES LPGA MEMORIAL (Naples, Florida) Leading final-rousid scores (US couless stated); 272 M Mallon 69 67 69 67, 273 H Altredsson (Swej 69 68 68 68; K Robbins 69 68 68 68; K 75 A 50renstam (Swej 67 75; M Estü 65 72 70 70; J Inkeles 67 36 67 37; K Webo (Ausj 63 69 72 73, K Webo (Ausj 63 69 72 73, Z78 I. Undrey 69 71 69 69; J Geddes 68 71 70 69; H Dobson (68) 68 73 70 70. Sinceles 67 70 77 67 K Marstall 72 71 73 70, 239 5 5 Turdwick 71 74 73 72 296 8 Nacholas 74 70 78 74, 237 M McKay 71 73 81 72; S Lowe 70 75 75 77.

World learn 6. SENONDA SUPERLEAGUE: Manchester 6 Newcastle 0: Bracknell 3 Ayr 1. Cardiff 3 London O, Sheffield 4 Noccingham 0. ICE SKATING

EUROPEAN (HAMPIONSNIPS (Prague) Men's qualifying group A: 1 L Tobel (Fr) 0 4 factored placements; 2 A Vlassenko (Ger) 0.8; 3 A Vagudin (Rus) 1.2; 8 N Wil-son (GS) 3 7

ICE HOCKEY

MOTORCYCLING The Italian Max Biaggi is to ride for Yamaha's factory 500cc team in the coming Grand Prix season even though he has still formally to sign

The proposed Argentina Grand Prix has been officially withdrawn from the world championship calendar, motor sport's governing body, the FIA, announced yesterday. An agree-ment between the commercial rights holder and the local promoter could RUGBY UNION

February.
TETLEY'S BITTER VASE Chartes-final drawn North and Middland Division: Scarborough v Mortingley: Similians v Heaton Moor London & South East and South West Division: Billeticay v St Just; Old Tiffinans v Moor or Datchworth. Ties to be played on Southed 13 February.

SNOOKER REGAL WELSH O'PEN (CardIAT) First round: 5 Bingham (Eng) for 7 Drago (Mal-ta) 5-0; 8 Shaddon (Sco) be O Henry (Sco) 5-2; P Sweeny (Eng) be M Clark (Eng) 5-3; J Wattana (Tha) be R Millidnis (Eng) 5-3. J Wattana (Tha) be R Millidnis (Eng) 5-3; P Hanter (Eng) be I McCurloch (Eng) 5-4; N Bond (Eng) 6 D Fribow (Eng) 5-4; T Chappel (Wall be 8 Morgan (Eng) 5-4.

SQUASH TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS (Grand Central Scadon, New York) Meer's first resends to Hurts (Erop) to Grand (Can 15-5 15-13 -6. ft Eyes (Aus) b. T Carner (Eng) 15-9 6-15 15-8 15-13: 5 Bosnell (Aus) b. A Khar (Pak) 15-17 17-15 15-6 15-11: p Johnson (Eng) bt Price (Aus) 15-55-15-16 15-7: 6 Gough (Wal) bt 5 Casteleyn (Bel) 15-5 15-11 15-4: O Jerson (Aus) bt A Shabana (Eg) 15-9 15-5 15-13: O Elborolossy (Eg) bt M Chaloner (Eng) 12-15 6-15 15-5 15-7: 15-12: A Barnab (Eg) bt A Hill (Aus) 4-15 15-9 9-15 15-7 15-13

TENNIS

AUSTRALIAN OPEN (Melbourne) Men's singles, fourth round V Spades (US) bt A AGASSI (US) 6-7-5-6-7-6-3; T Hass (Ger) bt F Santor (F1-6-2-6-3-7-5; T MARTIN (US) bt W Black (Zm) 7-6-6-4-6-4; Y MAFELNIKOV (Rus) bt A Pavel 6-3-7-6-6-7-3-6-6-4; Montren's singles, fourth round: 5 GRAF (Ger) bt B Schett (Aut) 6-1-6-1; M SELES (US) bt 5 TESTUO (F1-6-0-6-3) M HINGES (Swit) bt A COETZER (SA) 6-3-6-7-6-1, M PERCE (F1-10 ta ROUNDOVA (Rus) 6-0-6-4. Men's doubles, third round: 6 Kuerten (Bri) and I appear (Bri) and I (Swite) by A COUTZER (SA) 6-3 6-7 6-1 M PERRE (FIT) by A KOURNINDOVA (Rus) 5-0 6-4. Meen's doubtles, third research G Kuerren (Brg) and N Lapento (Equ) by N Kuiti and M Thistrom (Swe) 3-6 7-6 5-4; P GALERATH (US) and P HAARHUS (Neth) by M Mirryl (Bela) and A Othoustoles, third revends F Labar (Arg) and O Van Rooser (Bel) by E CALLENS (Bel) and J HARRO-DECUGS (FI) 6-4 6-1; L DAVENPORT (US) and N ZVEREVA (Bela) by C Cristee and R Oragonds (Room) 5-0 6-3; V Basald (Indon) and A Mauresmo (FI) by A Carlsson (Swe) and J Doke (Avs) 5-7 6-0. Causton-fields is Williams and V Williams (IS) by L NEHAND (Lat) and A SANCHEZ VICARIO (Sp) 5-4 4-6 6-1. Milliams (IS) by M BHIPATHI (Ind) and M LUCC (Croa) 6-7 6-2 7-6; C Haggard (SA) and E Callers (Bel) by M BHIPATHI (Ind) and M LUCC (Croa) 6-7 6-2 7-6; C Haggard (SA) and E Callers (Bel) by T M BHIPATHI (Ind) and M MUSC (Croa) 6-7 6-2 7-6; C Haggard (SA) and E Callers (Bel) by T M GROW (SA) and C Milliams (US) by R LEACH (US) and L NELANO (Lat) 6-4 2-6 6-3 (M Mirry) (Bela) and S Williams (US) by I Tarango (US) and E Lithowsewa (Rus) 6-4 6-6.4 M Mirry) (Bela) and E Lithowsewa (Rus) 6-4 6-6.4 M Mirry) (Bela) and E

SNOW REPORTS in association with WorldCover Direct

On or off piste, with WorldCover you're covered.

ANDORRA

SKI HOTLINE Detailed Independent snow and weather reports from 180 resorts First, obtain the access code for the resort of your choice. Phone or Fax 0870 51 00 843

To listen to the latest snow and weather report: Phone **0901 47 70 051 + code** For a fax copy of the latest snow and weath a report.

Fax 0906 55 00 086 + code

(the fax lists codes for 180 re-

SKI HOTLINE SNAPSHOT

A detailed four-page summary of conditions in 180 resorts Fax 0906 55 00 601

Help(ine: 0870 51 33 345

AUSTRIA Excellent high runs 30 29095% BULGARIA -2C 40 14.1 CANADA ITALY 90 80 NORWAY SCOTLAND Cairngorm90% SWITZERLAND Firm grippy snow 20 Saas Fee90% UNITED STATES 30 125 20.1 -3C Changeable Information supplied by Ski Hotline Calls to 0901 cost 60p per min, 0906 cost £1 per min, 0870 calls are standard national rate

Middlesbrough v Leicestei Newcasde v Aston Villa ... Sheff Wed v Derby

WORLDCOVER

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION 9 Bolton v Norwich
10 Crewe v Shelf Utd
11 Crewe v Shelf Utd
11 Lyswich v Port Vale
13 Oxford Utd v Barnsley
14 OPR v Portsmouth
15 Stockport v Wolverhampton
16 Swindon v Bury
17 Tranmers v Crystal Palace
18 Watford v Sunderland
18 West Porm y Grimsby 15 West Brom v Grimsby Sunday: Birmingham v Aradford.

NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

SECOND DIVISION

20 Biackpool v Macclesfield 21 Bristol Rovers v Colchester

WEEKEND POOLS FORECAST 24 Lincoln City & Burnley ...
25 Lutor v Bournemouth ...
26 Millwaff v Gillingham
27 Notts County v Reading NATIONWIDE LEAGUE

THIRD DIVISION

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE 40 Aberdeen v Rangers41 Dundee Utd v Dunfermline

SCOTTISH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION aith y Clydebank SCOTTISH LEAGUE

SECOND DIVISION

TEN HONES: Bolton v Norwich: Hud-dersfield v Bristol Cby: Ipswich v Port Vale; Chesterfield v Wycombe: Fulham v Northampton: Walsall v Wigan; Cam-bridge Utd v Carlisle; Mansfield v Chester; Kilmarnock v Dundee; Morton v Strannaer. FIVE AMAYS: Southampton v Leeds; Crewe v Sheff Utd; Wresham v Preston; Aberdeen v Rangers; Hamilton v Falkirk. FOUR DRAWS: Blackburn v Torrenham:

Pools forecast selections by Ian Dames

MOTOR RACING

ONE CALL AND YOU'RE COVERED

0800 365 121 TRAIL TO THE PARTY The report ad



SP()RT



HOLLIOAKE'S ENGLAND STRUGGLE P19 • DUVAL'S DESERT DELIGHT P20

Collymore to seek stress counselling

STAN COLLYMORE is to seek stress counselling to help him overcome his "current difficul-

It was thought that Aston Villa's £7m record signing would be on the carpet after failing to turn up for Saturday's FA Cup match against Fulham. But Villa have said that Collymore was not in a fit state to be considered and have vowed to help the former England striker through his problems.

Villa issued a brief statement after meetings during the day between Villa's manager, John Gregory, Collymore, his representative, Paul Stretford, and the cluh's board of directors. As a result of those talks, Collymore has put his career on hold while he seeks the counselling that he feels is vital.

The statement said: "Stan Collymore has made it clear that pressures and stress have been huilding up for a long period of time, which culminated in the decision by the club not to consider him fit to play on

"Following this, Stan has declared that he wishes to seek further counselling to help him overcome his current difficulties." It added that the Villa's manager and board of directors had expressed their desire to help Collymore.

Gregory was unavailable for comment after the meeting and Stretford would only say: I think the statement says on the Glasgow club.

BY JOHN CURTIS

everything that has to be said. I am certainly not letting on when the counselling will get underway or where it will take Collymore has expressed

his unhappiness at Villa in recent weeks and last week spelt out his disappointment at being only a "peripheral" part of Gregory's title plans. The former Liverpool player had been a substitute for six of the previous eight matches before the shock Cup defeat by Fulham. Gregory had responded by urging Collymore to follow the example of Julian Joachim in fighting his way back into the

Then came Collymore's nonappearance for the Fulham match after Gregory had admitted he was originally selected to play another role from the substitute's bench.

Stretford insisted yesterday that Collymore had not gone Awol and that the player had contacted the Villa physio, Jim Walker, on Friday, claiming that he was not fit to play. The extent of his condition has now been revealed and he may now face a long battle to overcome his problems.

Another errant striker, Mark Viduka, yesterday promised he and Stretford would only say: is at Centr to stay and the stay and will never again turn his back. I came to Glasgow."

We have had talks all day and will never again turn his back. I came to Glasgow."

Football, page 23

striker lasted a mere 72 hours at Parkhead in December following his £3m signing from Croatia Zagreb, before leaving for Australia complaining of stress. Yesterday was his first public appearance with the club since his return.

Viduka was keen to avoid apportioning hlame for his seven-week absence, saying his only concern now was launching his Celtic career on the pitch. He pointed to his unhappiness in Zagreb as the overriding factor in his swift departure from Scotland, hut claims that his personal troubles are out of his system and will not return.

Viduka, who now wishes to be known as Mark rather than Marko, said: "I understand all this is not a usual occurrence, but it is hard to understand. I felt I wasn't ready to fulfil my contract without having a rest before that and getting things back into balance.

"Is there a guarantee I'll stay? I am back here - that is a good enough guarantee. I'm ready to start playing for Celtic and give my heart to the team.

"I thought at the time I first came here I would be able to take it in my stride, but the whole package was too muchincluding the pressure from the fans at Zagreb. The last months in Creatia were hard to

American survives the curse of the seeds



two men's seeds to reach the quarter-finals of the season's first Grand Slam Report, page 22; Photograph: Reuters

Indian scorers dispute century

OFFICIALS AND scorers were at loggerheads yesterday in Gwalior, India, over whether or not the Pakistan batsman inzamam-ul-Haq scored a century in the first innings of his side's drawn three-day match

against India A.
Pakistan'a captain, Wasim
Akram, declared the first innings at a total of 334 for 6 on Saturday, and the scorers logged Inzamam'a score at 98 not out. Pakistani officials later said Wasim had declared because the stadium scoreboards showed his individual total at 100.

Pakistan's manager, Shahryar Khan, said that the Indian officials had agreed to correct what he said was a communication gap, saying Inzamam had indeed completed his century. But the scorers stuck to their guns. "We have not changed anything. We have spo-ken to the umpires as well. If there is anything between Pakistan and the board, it is between them," scorer Sunil Gupta said.

Pakistan's coach, Javed. Miandad, gave reporters an "unofficial" scoresheet that showed Yousuf Youhanna's first innings score as 122, two runs less than the 124 given by the scorers. The two runs were found instead on Inzamam's total. A spokesman for the **Board of Control for Cricket in** India said a decision would be taken later on whether there: was an anamoly in the score.

 Inzamam narrowly missed a century in the second innings when he was bowled by the paceman Laxmi Ratan Shukla

after he had scored 96. Salim Matik and Inzamam saved Pakistan from potential problems. Salim struck 122 to lift his team from 23 for 5 to a total of 272 all out, boosting a 58-run first innings advantage to 330.

Pakistan's bowlers then restored control as India A stuttered to 111 for 5 before the close. Pakistan's five main bowlers took one wicket each, hut Waqar Younis, punished in the first innings, conceded 40 in

League snubs fans' plea

jected calls from fans' groups to oppose BSkyB's proposed £623.4m takeover of Manchester United. The Football Supporters' Association and the Independent Manchester United Supporters' Association want the League to back their fight against the satellite hroadcaster.

The supporters' organisations feel the League should support them as they are helping its court case against the Office of Fair Trading over the television rights to the Premiership.

THE PREMIER League has re- United's supporters' association may withdraw its support serious concerns which are if the League does not reciprocate. The League is understood to be surprised by the timing of the objection and believes the two issues are separate.

> A League spokesman, Mike Lee, said: "The issues at stake in our current court case remain the same. The supporters' organisations have recognised that the OFT pose a real threat to the fabric of the game. It would be wrong to trade support on other issues."

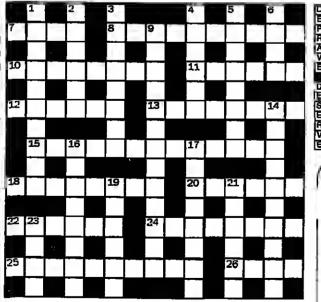
The League is understood to

considering our position."

down to the competition authorities to deal with. This is not satisfactory for the fans' groups, and they want the League's co-operation.

The chairman of United's supporters association, Andy Walsh, said: "When the Premier League approached us to give evidence in the OFT case we saw it as the only way to retain some form of redistribution of wealth and parity within the Premier League. We're now re-

THE TUESDAY CROSSWORD No.3829 Tuesday 26 January Monday's Solution



Man in Europe admit-

ting sexual attraction (4) One among county nota- 25 Makes inspection to bles where servants are found? (10) 10 Dales town, popular, is to hecome familiar (6,2)

11 It encourages growth of the electric blanket ef-12 Woman is turning yel-

lowish-hrown or a deeper colour (6) 13 Thus getting a grass thrown in the sea (8)

15 Patient result of being racked? (4-9)

18 Canine makes one look and sound horn hard (3-20 Get ready to fire off

again about cargo (6)

22 Cheap US quarter? (3-3) 24 Fix line which manicurist uses? (4-4) grasp points of meagre quality (10) 26 Woman's European ge-

netic material (4)

DOWN Pieces put together by friend in a remarkable way (10)

Trimmed dried fruit for 17 ruler (6) Swayed, e.g., sadly un-able to get a word in so? 19

These characters will get right woman (6) After butter one will pro-vide smoked heef (8) ing society (6) 23 Place in Twickenham? 6 In short, cut cheese (4)



Find sow maybe in African developments?

14 Indicating everybody's enthralled by taking on of football star? (10) 16 Mark has not been improperly embracing one

Appearing before all the others, looking most like a noble? (8) Make greater offer in attempt to escape? (6) Put up line taken by school inspectors ignor-

New order faces drug case farce

BRITISH ATHLETICS, due to launch itself into a brave new world today, will do so dragging behind it an embarrassing piece of unfinished business concerning an athlete who has failed a drug test.

At a press conference yesterday, UK Athletics spokesperson Jayne Pearce said the athlete could not be named, even though a B sample test had

confirmed the original finding. Standard procedure rules that a committee now has to decide whether there is a clear doping case to answer - and owing to administrative confusion following the collapse into receivership of the British Athletic Federation in October 1997, no such committee is in place to do so.

A hastily formed body will review the case "within the next few days" according to Pearce, who read a statement of the UK Athletics position yesterday. "If it is a doping case, we can reveal the name. If it is not we won't. We have to protect the confidentiality and rights of the athlete, and the principle that they are innocent until proved guilty."

Pearce was unable to comment on any other details of the case, but confirmed that what appears to be the first major doping problem the domestic sport has had since 1994 could not have come at a more awkward time. "We were on course

Colour Print, St Albans Road, Walford

ATHLETICS

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

for transferring recognition to the new governing body tomorrow," she said, "but this adverse finding has slowed everything up."

The statement confirmed that a recent B test had confirmed a positive A sample given by a British athlete. "In view of the transition in governing body status from BAF to UK Athletics," it continued, "UK Athletics and BAF are working together to decide the

procedures to be followed. "Under BAF rules, a committee will be formed to review whether or not a doping offence may have taken place. The ath-lete is not suspended and will not be suspended unless and until that committee decides that a doping offence may have taken place."

Pearce stressed that the case is following established procedure, but acknowledged that, since the effective demise of the old BAF drug advisory group, the next link in the chain no longer existed.

Responding to the suggestion that an interim committee should have been set up for such an eventuality as has just occurred, she said: "The case is legally one for BAF to still working to their rule book. sport's new vessel.

dealt with by the administrators. But no one is dragging their feet over this issue. We hope to resolve it as soon as

A resolution cannot come soon enough for a sport which stands on the brink of a new season needing to seal a fiveyear television deal with the BBC and to secure a number of sponsors for its key domestic events. UK Athletics needs to be clearly and independently established to ensure the smooth working of a sport which has picked itself up by its bootstraps since the dark days of autumn 1997.

The longer this latest doping case is unresolved, the more the sport in general is likely to be harmed by the inevitable speculation which will follow. And yet, UK Athletics needs to proceed with caution to ensure it does not become involved in the kind of potentially costly court case which followed in the wake of Diane Modahl's successful appeal against the doping ban imposed on her five years ago.

The hilling for today's announcement promised the "Launch (with a difference) of UK Athletics." Unfortunately the difference now is that the launch is effectively held up on the slipway, and it will take deal with, because the sport is some frantic efforts to free the Published by Independent Newspapers (UK) Limited, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E145DL, and printed at Mirror

Join the AA now and a partner

You don't have to be married, in a relationship, or related to benefit from AA joint membership. You just have to share the same home address. Normally, joint membership is an option costing up to £26. Now, with this offer it comes completely free. For a limited period only, two people can join and benefit from a year's AA breakdown assistance for the price of one."

And remember, with AA personal membership, you and your joint member are covered even when travelling in someone else's car.

We have the world's largest patrol force. and fix more breakdowns at the roadside than any other motoring organisation.

We are more likely to get you back on the road quicker than anyone else. saving you time and money.

"Available for a himited period. Certain

To our members we're not just a breakdown service, we're the 4th Emergency Service.

JOIN NOW CALL FREE 0800 PLEASE QUOTE OFFER CODE 6003

LINES OPEN 24 HRS OR JOIN ONLINE AT www.theaa.co.uk

Sports to be seed in the seed of the seed Recognition Colebrity lunche and the care area of the Gold A the bodium and abundance But dintervened. Per 24 million people in the ide followed the proceedings to unspoci on prime in

Applications of the second Spremen district or outside godo tele por interior interior Mill Imps to have lessively and the HFP ass consider Migred to the to at all - at a the most coc much and Miranic Working Dowers

THE RESERVE

Societa A

not been and her perfe

Greg the

in the head

time the gift.

- sed bash at and the same of th

as of univer

the same and the same

services to expect ! The Roman awards cerem

the Occur

Refer the industrial closely de la Arademy Awards

Series of New Hamp

ha hours of prize giving

hite of the marketing is

base or he ewards translate

Stiens of Cobes are ser

the though the every one of Wild Street Steel High were

Marie San Contract of Linear

the event's

But Fore ET Press Associal

Signification of one of Hollywood

deletes of the contract of a branch

her seen success enough, but

the pooles

the identification is the period of

prince control selected representations

land the norld. No. the HFP

has fer here clique, an &

Bell made 35 C. Ingelances a

paring selection reduced in

Association dies not even

2

TUESDAYREVIEW

'I'd like to thank my Grandpa, my agent, and 84 hungry, star-struck, freelance, free-loading journalists'

ning it was. Gwyneth Paltrow, quivering like a flower in the breeze as she accepted her Golden Globe award for best comedy actress in Makespeare in Love, could not hold back the tears as she paid tribute to her sick grandfather. Jenna Eliman, honoured for her performance in the TV series Dharma and Greg, thanked her mother and father "for giving birth to me". Ed Harris's list of thank-yous for his best supporting actor award (for The Truman Show) included

5 5 7 23

- >1_6=

.

hat an emotional eve-

HE INDEPENDENT

Indian

scorers

dispute

century

God Himself - "for giving me the gift of life". Sunday night's star-studded bash at the Beverly Hilton displayed all the senseless hyperbole. the sweeping proclamations of universal love, the tears, glitter and occasional flashes of genuine wit that we have come to expect from that archetypal Hollywood awards ceremony, the Oscars. Only these weren't the Oscars, but the Golden Globes - the influential, closely scrutinised precursor to the Academy Awards that have been described as a kind of New Hampshire primary of the Hollywood prize-giving season.

In a film world where marketing is king, and nominations for big awards translate into millions at the box office, the Globes are serious stuff serious enough for every one of Sunday night's bucky winners, even if they were too emotional to remember the names of their co-stars, pay reverent homage to the event's sponsors. the Hollywood Foreign Press Association.

Leaving the fate of one of Hollywood's biggest nights of the year in the hands of a bunch of journalists may seem suspect enough, but the Foreign Press Association does not even live up to the dubious respectability of its ponderous title. We are not talking about respected critics here, or even the carefully selected representatives of major newspapers and media organisations from around the world. No, the HFPA is little more than a pampered clique, an 82-member body largely made up of freelances and parttimers which jealously guards its privileges and makes it supremely difficult for outsiders - even bona fide reporters from major publications such as Le Monde - to penetrate its world of special advance screenings, celebrity lunches and all-

expenses-paid trips to film festivals. For years the HFPA was considered a bit of a joke, and film stars treated the Golden Globes if they bothered to turn up at all - as an excuse to have a laugh, drink too much and josh each other at the podium microphone. But that was before the miracle-working powers of network

television intervened. Last year 24 million people in the United States alone followed the proceedings on NBC; it attracts so much top-dollar advertising that relatively unfrilly ceremony takes more than Free hours to unspool on prime time. The for- chunks of cash to charity.

eign press's ability to predict, and possibly influence, the mainstream sensibilities of the Academy (four of the last five Oscar-winning films were also Golden Globe recipients) has simply overwhelmed the frequent ethical misgivings about a voting body that receives publicity perks and other favours from the makers of the films it is asked to pronounce upon.

Compared to the Academy, whose 5,000-odd members are all industry professionals and are banned from receiving any perks from the studios beyond videotapes of their films, the Foreign Press Association looks distinctly eccentric. Its members have included a retired engineer. the chair of the pan-African studies department at Cal State university, a man who markets automobiles, and a shop assistant in a hi-fi store.

The body has admitted that at least 40 per cent of its members are not full-time journalists, but the rules stipulate only that members should show proof of four published articles or broadcast pieces per year. There are an awful lot of submissions from writers claiming to write "for Costa Rican and Czech publications".

When The Washington Post published a widely publicised denunciation of the Foreign Press Association two years ago, it discovered that a correspondent for Le Monde had been turned down for membership four or five times. Under the group's bylaws, a sitting member has the power of veto over any applicant - even one who works for a competing paper.

The attractions of membership are undeniable. Press screenings of new films are usually accompanied by hunch or dinner, and invariably followed up by exclusive interview opportunities with the director and leading actors. Foreign



Globes, having become an accident on the path to the Oscars, have now become too prominent to ignore, and hang the niceties. Another, loudly proclaimed in publications such as The Washington Post and Rolling Stone, both of which have aimed broad jabs at the event, is the very suggestibility of the HFPA. The studios can lavish gifts and attention on a group of hungry, starstruck pseudo-journalists, the argument runs, and in return their films and stars can be rewarded with the glare of media publicity.

Certainly there have been occasions when the foreign press's activities have aroused widespread suspicion. In 1981, HFPA members were treated to several days of entertainment in Las Vegas by Meshulam Riklis, married at the time to Pia Zadora. When Zadora was named "new female star of the year" for her work in the eminently forgettable movie Butterfly, it caused such a storm that the Globes were considered off limits for network television for several years.

There were similar murmurs in 1993 after Al Pacino was named "best actor" for his work in search, is chaired by Sharon Stone, and she is a regular fixture at the awards ceremony.

The complaints and press denunciations have had some effect. The current president of the Foreign Press Association, a German journalist called Helmut Voss, has promised a review of the association's admissions procedure. As part of its broadcasting agreement for the Golden Globes, NBC this year required that association members sign a waiver agreeing not to accept excessive gifts or hospitality.

The Washington Post reported that this covered "any gifts other than those that are the customary promotional gifts of the studios" wording that, the paper suggested, was vague enough to leave plenty of room for abuses.

Although this year's awards were broadly in line with industry expectations, with Shakespeare in Love, Saving Private Ryan and The Trumon Show winning the lion's share, that has not stopped gossip over some nominations. Terrence Malick's war epic The Thin Red Line received not a single mention - which irked the studio, Twentieth Century Fox, enough to point out that less than 50 per cent of the HFPA had turned up to the special screening. Meanwhile Patch Adams, a Robin Williams

comedy, earned itself a best film nomination in the comedy/musical section even though it was roundly panned by every leading newspaper. None of these misgivings was aired at the cer-

emony itself, of course. The closest thing to sarcasm came from Jack Nicholson, recipient of a lifetime achievement award and a man too well established in the husiness to have much to lose. With his deadpan delivery and wickedly ambiguous smile, he said he particularly appreciated the award because it didn't come from a peer group. The Hollywood foreign press is a loose group of guys and gals," he said. "You almost feel you could go out and have fun with them."

Otherwise, the tone was of impeccable deference. HFPA President Voss, a veteran writer for the Springer press group, perhaps summed it up best as he was introduced on to the stage looking for all the world like a man who can't believe his good fortune at being the object of such prestigious adulation.

"To be a journalist, have an accent like Erich von Stroheim and be kissed by Sharon Stone,

ONLY A CRACKPOT WOULD pay twice as much AS THEY NEED TO for phone calls.



Why help BT make another £3.2 BILLION profit again this year? First Telecom can save you 50% off national and International calls to over 230 countries. We won't need THINK to touch your existing phone, line or number. Just add First Telecom's servica to your existing BT phone and join our 300,000 customers. You'd be potty not to. 0800 458 4647

FIRST TELECOM

BY ANDREW GUMBEL

press members are invariably showered with freebies - not just baseball caps and T-shirts, but valuable gifts such as a silver money-clip to promote Martin Scorsese's movie Casino).

Trips to locations and film festivals are common, with the association usually paying for the flights and the studio picking up the hotel bill. Members who may spend much of the year pursuing entirely different forms of employment can find themselves on the receiving end of en allenses-paid return trip to Cannes or Venice. Thanks to the Golden Globes, there is money

galore for such enterprises. According to tax returns and other documents published in the entertainment newspaper Variety, the Foreign Press Association made \$1.5m from the 1997 event and - largely because of strict rules governing what non-profit organisations can and can not spend money - has a cash pile of about \$3.5m. There are plans to build a new headquarters, complete with state of the art screening facilities. To the association's credit, it also gives increasing

Scent of a Woman. A few weeks earlier, the HFPA had been off in New York on a promotional trip that included interview time with Pacino. The scandal was muted by the fact that Pacino gave a genuinely impressive performance - one that also netted him the Best Actor Oscar.

Occasionally prominent film-makers have complained about lavishing so much attention on the foreign press. In 1993, the director Rob Reiner complained to The New York Times that the exclusive press conferences he had given had seemed to be little more than an opportunity for HFPA members to have their photographs taken with their favourite movie stars. Such complaints are rare, however, because of the sheer power of the Hollywood publicity machine.

More often, stars and studios will actively cultivate the HFPA. After a press conference to promote Casino, in which she played the wife of a mañoso casino operator, Sharon Stone sent handwritten thank-you notes to each member. She went on to win the Golden Globe and an Oscar nomination. One of the HFPA's favourite char- he gushed. "Only in America."

eaders and comment 3-5

Arts Visual Arts Health

Listings Radio: Satellite TV Today's TV

After the Lords

Sir: I am alarmed that, although David Aaronovitch ("Some thoughts, your Lordship, on the reform of your House", 21 January) says that we need a "mostly elected, legitimate and powerful second chamber" he does not follow out the logic of this: it must be wholly elected to be legitimate and powerful.

It should represent different constituencies from MPs. Regions, particularly in England, need elected representation so that the whole of the United Kingdom can have sensible links with the European Union's important Council of Regions.

It should not include hishops or any other religious nominees. As a Methodist, I am only too aware of the baleful effects the entwining of church and state has had on both. It is 350 years since Cromwell tried unsuccessfully to reform our polity by root and branch reform; let us not miss another opportunity to become democratic JOHN DANDERSON Baildon, West Yorkshire

Sir: Lord Strathclyde has asked whether hereditary peers "are not entitled to know where we are heading" before leaving the stage.

The answer is unequivocally "No", if only because of the offensive manner in which they appear to have blackmailed our elected government into allowing some of their number a continuing voice in Parliament.

They should go and go now. No tumbrils await them in Parliament Square and for those with ambition and talent other avenues into politics are open.

The future of the second chamber depends on a clear definition of its functions; for example, whether these should continue to include those of the ultimate court of appeal for the UK and a number of overseas countries. From this, with three minutes' thought, its constitution will follow - though, as Houseman remarked, thought is arduous and three minutes is a long time. **BRIAN ELMS** Ashburnham, East Sussex

Sir: If the House of Lords replacement is to be decided by popular vote, who are we likely to end up with? Sundry pop singers, sportspersons, TV "personalities" plus Richard Branson.

The country already has a pool of individuals of varied political persuasion with a proven record of working for the public, overseeing large budgets within tight spending limits, and political acumen. These are our retiring lord mayors. List the county, city and town councils with the 500 biggest budgets and each year the retiring mayor from one third of the list would serve for three years. The house would be far more representative than at present.

Even changes to signs would be minimal: simply change the name to "the House of Lord Mayors". R N FRANKLIN

Sir: Pelham Barton (letter, 22 January) asks if anyone can explain why other than a completely elected replacement for the House of Lords is even an

A completely elected replacement would be another House of Commons. It is enough that we have one of those already. And what would it do? Act in the name of the electorate to limit the will of the electorate?

Such a house would be full of politicians, for goodness' sake. The breadth of experience, wisdom and perspective would be diminished dramatically. We will have more elections, more politics and it will cost more. DAVID CHANDLER Bromley, Kent

Sir: Pelham Barton asks whether there is any case for a second chamber which is not directly elected. Well, the argument is that the house should continue to have some independent members who,

vote on the merits of legislation

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, London E14 5DL and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk. E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address.

Letters may be edited for length and clarity



Staten Island Ferry No 2: A ferry passes the Statue of Liberty at sunset

rather than on party lines. But do they? When I was chief lobbyist to the GLC during its campaign against abolition we noticed that nearly a third of the cross-bench peers voted consistently with the Tory government (four of them were said to be in receipt of the Conservative whip) and almost a third voted with the opposition. The rest appeared to cast their votes in a genuinely independent way.

I suggest to Lord Wakeham that, at the first meeting of his Royal Commission, a university is commissioned to produce a research study showing how the "independent" peers voted on major issues during the last 10 years. Were they really independent? If not, the case for nominated cross-bench members

Provided the powers of the new second chamber are laid down in statute and not left to conventions and time-honoured practices, there is no need for the Commons to feel threatened by a directly elected Senate. Only the "great and the good" hoping to be nominated for a place in this exclusive club will be disappointed. Well, tough. ROLAND FREEMAN Salisbury

Sir: The Government has announced that an Appointments Commission that will create people's peers". We should finally get a more representative input into the British political system. But yet again we still have no input from youth.

Was it not Tony Blair who said he wanted a "young country"? Will we ever see a broader age range in the Lords, including significantly younger peers, who understand youth's problems?

The Bisbops have their say in the Lords and there are many different specialists among the cross-benchers, so when is the New Labour government going to do something for the future people of this country, rather than the

OLLIE COCHRAN Brentwood, Essex

Sir. On the radio the other day I heard an announcer rebuked for addressing a knight as "Mister" -"Sir Terrence, if you please!" came the huffy correction; and I am sorry to say that the broadcaster sounded genuinely apologetic.

My reflections are further prompted by Andreas Whittam Smith's column (25 June) about the title "Lord": he should widen his target to include all honorary titles. The media could help there. What a healthy innovation it would be if a newspaper announced that it would not in future use such titles. It would report that Mr Bloggs had been ennobled but continue to refer to him as Mr, the same with knights. Others would follow the example, and social practice in due course be reshaped, so that such honours would not have their current divisive effect. **NEVILLE MAXWELL**

Safely to school

Sir: I write in the light of recent events to call on all parents and teachers to consider carefully how they are introducing the children in

Sir: During the past few days we have seen and heard a

and Olympic participants

element of corrupt practice

behind the choice of various

Sir: Frank Dobson should be

applanded for his attempt to

about who should receive

Viagra ("Viagra rules ration

sex to once a week on NHS", 22

January). For those who may

end np paying for this drug, at

least there is the knowledge

that this decision is the

supply clear guidelines for GPs

Olympic vennes. Why did they

not share their knowledge with

years that there was an

the wider public?

Bournemouth, Dorset

PGORDON

number of sport commentators

admitting to having known for

their care to the concept and skills of personal safety.

Our work as the national charity for personal safety has taught us that if young people are taught how to instinctively avoid dangerous situations, they are much more likely to avoid being victims.

As far as travelling to school is concerned we recommend that parents contact other parents and the school to discuss strategies for ensuring that children have arrived at school and that their journey to school is safe. It is hard to let children do things on their own, but if they are not allowed out alone they will never learn to be safe.

Parents should help children plan routes to school, taking note of phone booths and public places to go for help. They should talk through strategies for recognising and coping with potential danger and provide children with a charge card for making a telephone call.

This is another of those conversations that parents should not avoid having with their children. DIANA LAMPLUGH Director The Suzy Lamplugh Trust

London SW14

Victims of Taliban

Sir. We were astonished at Peter Popham's suggestion that the right of women to healthcare, education and employment in Taliban-controlled Afghanistan is an inappropriate "Western assumption" on the part of aid agencies ("How the children of Kabul are sacrificed to sexual politics of the West", 16 January).

We left Kabul not because the accommodation imposed on us by the authorities was not comfortable enough, as Popham suggests.

The Taliban authorities had imposed such severe restrictions on medical work that it had become impossible to help the most vulnerable people, namely women and children. The authorities had previously banned women from general hospitals, and outlawed the training and employment of female medical staff, the only health workers allowed to treat women - this in a country with one of the highest rates of maternal mortality in the

Medical ethics demand that all

IN BRIEF

product of some rational consultation and thought process. This is in contrast to the lottery faced by infertile conples, many of whom have little choice hut to pay thousands of pounds for treatment because they live in the "wrong" part of the country. NICOLA LEE-BROWNE Wickhambreaux, Kent

Sir: There has been a lot of discussion about the high cost of Visgra and whether the NHS can afford to prescribe it, but I do not think these costs have been put into context. The cost of a single pill is about the same as a packet of fish and

chips, and the total cost, if it is freely available, is a drop in the ocean compared to the value of the sex industry in this country. Anyone who wants it can afford it. That should be the end of the MARGARET LYE

Sir: Professor Kirkwood ("Hungry for a longer life?", 22 January) refers too casually to the danger of anorexia. According to a recent article in the US journal Science (29 May 1998) this disease "is among the most disabling and lethal of psychiatric disorders" with a mortality rate of approximately 5 per cent of patients per decade of follow-up. ANDREW COULSON Musselburgh, East Lothian

patients be treated equally regardless of their gender. We will

return to the Afghan capital when the authorities allow us to resume our work in a principled way. However, we do not agree with the blanket funding bans currently imposed by the British government and the European Union on Afghanistan. The situation in the Afghan provinces is very different from Kabul and

aid agencies are able to provide assistance in a fair and principled way in many areas. Snch lifesaving work should be continued and supported.

ANNE-MARIE HUBY **Executive Director** Médecins Sans Frontières (UK) London EC1

Mandy's election

Sir. Roy Hattersley was mistaken in his review of Mandy (23 January) concerning Peter Mandelson's appointment as the Labour Party director of communications.

The National Executive was heavily factionalised in 1985 and on the day (24 September) there was 24 votes round the table. At the end of the interviewing procedure 12 votes on the right were lined up behind Peter and 12 votes were behind the left candidate.

During the interviews Neil Kinnock prevailed upon myself and another member of the left faction to switch our votes to Peter, which, after much soul-searching, and to help Neil build the team he wanted, we both eventually did. Peter was therefore elected by 14 votes to 10.

After the interviews I telephoned the unsuccessful left candidate to apologise for the way I had voted.

She was gracious in defeat and has said on many occasions since that we appointed the best person to the job. The left faction was much less forgiving and we received the usual ritual denunciation. The rest is history. TOM SAWYER

Young soldiers

Sir. Thank you for the informative article "Ban on soldiers under 18 resisted by Britain and US" (18 resisted by Britain and US" (18 January). The problem is not just the age at which soldiers are recruited, or even the young age at which they are sent into battle, but the uniquely British system which we term "the five year trap".

The MOD has said that "young" servicemen ... could leave at any time during their basic training. However, basic training, for those who join before 18 years, means a period of only five months, from the second to the sixth month of service.

Six months after signing a document which most of them do not understand, the 16 year-old ** soldiers are committed to full-time service at least until the age of 21 plus three months, and to Reserve obligation until the age of 40.

In 1996 Dr John Reid promised a delegation of which I was a member that, when Labour was elected and he became Minister for the Armed Forces, the recruitmen contracts for under-18s would be reformed. He suggested keeping. the present five month recruit'a right of discharge but giving an additional one-off chance to leave at the age of 18, with a financial bonus for those who remained. Not only has this promise not

been kept hut the Government has intensified a recruitment campaign targeted at younger GWYN GWYNTOPHER At Ease voluntary counsellor London E1

Unknown killers

Sir. Mr Young ("Killers at large", letter, 18 January) seems to believe that psychiatrists have supernatural powers to product howevers to produce howevers howevers to produce howevers powers to predict human behaviour and consequently he saddles them with a responsibility they cannot sustain. His belief is a delusion common among the public.

In truth, although psychiatrists come into contact with many potentially dangerous people, they are unable to predict whether or when a given person will commit an act of violence.

One known important factor which increases the likelihood of criminal behaviour, including apparently irrational violence is. the use of illegal drugs. However, it is still impossible for a psychiatrist. or anyone else, including close relatives, to predict when a person will take a drug and in what circumstances the drug will induce a state of inclination towards.... violence. Drandrew WILSKI Consultant Psychiatrist and Medical Director Pembury Hospital, Mental Health

Services Tunbridge Wells, Kent

Long night train

Sir: I wonder if Roger Hill will receive compensation when he has posted his claim form to. SNCF detter, 23 January).

I travelled from Zurich to Paris in September 1997. The train came to a standstill somewhere in mid-France in the early hours of the morning and was more than three hours late arriving in Paris. There was no refreshment car as it was an overnight train due in around 5am, so the passengers were hungry and thirsty by the time we

No explanation was given and although compensation forms were handed out when we left the train there was no suggestion of an

1 duly posted my form and am still waiting for my compensation. CATRIONA WHEELER

Top banana

Sir: In her letter (22 January) on the banana dispute, Glenys Kinnock asks: "If the worst happens and the EU fails, what will Bill Clinton do?" Surely recent history shows the answer - he'll authorise the bombing of Brussels. JOHN HAWGOOD

A beginner's guide to the art of tax avoidance

Yes, it's panic time for those of you who have not yet submitted your tax forms! The end of January is the deadline, after which the Inland Revenue will come knocking on your door in the middle of the night, asking for money and uttering hideous cackling laughter. (See my leaflet "Can I Claim Self-Defence After Shooting a Tax Official in My Own Home?", £2 +

There is still time, however, to avoid this fate, and for those of you who want to get their forms in on time but are finding it a nightmare to fill them in, I am conducting a tax surgery today to clear up the most common problems.

I WONDER if you can help me. I have recently been involved in the building of a massive dome in

Greenwich for the celebration of the millennium. To enable this to be financed, I arranged for a huge loan to be made to me which I didn't really get around to mentioning to anyone else. I have now been removed from being in charge of the building of the dome, which means that when the loan comes to light in my absence, it is going to cause a massive scandal, huge national embarrassment, snap general election and so on. Is there a way in which I could transfer the details of this loan outside the country now, so as to avoid them becoming pub-

lic later? Yes. Send for my leaflet '20 Different Ways in which Cabinet Ministers Can Get Loans Registered in the Cayman Islands to Avoid Undue Publicity and Notoriety'

I WONDER if you can belp me. I am the ex-president of a South American country directly south of Peru and am currently spending several months in Britain under house arrest while waiting for a decision on whether I can leave the country. To while away the time I have been writing my life story which I have tentatively entitled All Right, I Admit It! I Was the Dictator from Hell! So What Are You Going to Do About It?

To do some research on some of the murkier parts of my past, I have had to join Amnesty International and thus get access to statistics on my own period in power, which has been very useful. Can I claim my Amnesty membership as a legitimate taxdeductible expense? Yes. Though I would advise you not



KINGTON 'I wonder if you can help

me. I have recently been involved in the building of a massive dome...'

to mention it the next time you are involved in a case in front of the

I AM the president of a committee which helps to choose the sites for the Olympic Games. Recently I have been shocked to discover that the members of my committee have been taking bribes to ensure that certain cities got the vote for the Winter Olympic Games, not to mention the summer ones... The answer is quite clear. As president, you should have been aware of this. You must now resign.

No, No, that is not the question. I never resign. The question is this. If the committee members were discovered to have passed on some of their ill-gotten gains to me, would I be liable to tax on it? Are bribes in fact taxable? Or being undercover in the first place, and therefore outside the law, are they also exempt from legal things such

as taxes? This is purely hypothetical, you understand. If I were you, I would send up for

my leaflet Why the Presidents of Some International Organisations Should Go Out and Throw Themselves from the Top of the Nearest Building at the First Opportunity, in a Purely Hypothetical Sort of Way, Of Course' (£2.50 + p & p). I HAVE recently resigned as the leader of a major political party in

Britain, and have been deluged with offers to write my memoirs. Political memoirs are always deadly dull exercises in evasiveness and I am loath to add to their number, but is there any tax incentive in not writing your autobiography? No, but you will make more friends than any other living politician if

I AM the Foreign Secretary of Great Britain and have recently been engaged in bombing Iraq in order to distract attention from my ex-wife's recent book about me. However, we also have a very real reason for bombing Iraq, and that is that Saddam Hussein has been developing fearsome weapons of his own. We don't want him to spend lots of money developing fearsome weapons. We want him to spend lots of money buying fearsome weapons from the West, thus boosting British arms sales. That's why we're bombing him. I see. But do you have a question?

NO. I just wanted to stress that all this bombing costs money and that means taxes, and that means all of you getting your tax returns in as soon as possible. Thank you.

There is n where gur private fie

NORTHERN IRELAND'S P another dilemma. Although remain largely in place as far evidence is emerging that soare on the increase in the pa This is a matter just as so being bombed. An attack in because warnings were phr more press attention than the go under the relatively innuc though the latter have done harm. The Government has a blind eye to these beatings. ively been treated as a speci Terrorist gangs have mos

among Northern Ireland's wi on which extertion, drug-de rife. This prevents the estab that Northern Ireland so de mines the rule of law. If pea mean a return to normality. T This is the reason senior I

the whole peace process to b including Frank Field and H (b) Labour's Northern Trelan Commons motion arguing tha tinue while the organisation members continue to maim c from members of a party hist nationalism, this should serv and the IRA that the patience and public is wearing thin. Mo Mowlam and Tony Blai

to play, since there is so little ; ical onicess. Unionists will w of any Northern Ireland Ex missioning of arms: the Gov concessions in that direction have left is the release of pri Prisoner release should be ernment still has some barga should also be tied to decest will collapse anyway withou missioning. This is a danger a violent response from the p leverage the Government no British mainland, relieved th of some new atrocity, should fellow citizens in Northern ! of Intimidation. That is unac ignores it. its negligence wil

There

ORGET DNA Proof of our close line to the insecure, competitive, ske mashing troglodytes of the Ice A is nowhere more evident in mode rociety than when we buy and sell of louses, or choose our childre -chools. The trust and restraint t characterise most social transaction lisappear, and are replaced by a d opic selfishness. Even sweeties v alopt Sudanese orphans and saragons of recycling turn into m sters when there's a chance of then junior can't get into that li ripool with the great reputation. ever the weekend, readers of iail on Sunday were diverted b gantic splash headlined "Parer My Over Blairs in School Pl The mommies and daddie the iself kids, all of them pupils i

on yards or so away, in Hamo mith, west London. But the Bis laughter, Kathryn (based, of cou-Westminster) had been admitt Over other issues the parents allowed themselves to be interview by The Mnil on Sunday might hused more discretion before sound off against the admission of one st wirl to the Sacred Heart. But this aveperson stuff. A Mrs Mi Mavrokefalos (which I think is Gr or "big brain") demanded: "V light has Tony Blair to get his day ter into our school?" And a Linda ("Serted that, "It's simple - the B! have taken somebody's place."

ocal Catholic Sacred Heart prim

thool had failed to get places in

Sacred Heart comprehensive sch

ONE OF the biggest problems in tackling corruption is defin-ing it When does nepotism and cronyism become bribery and corruption? There has leep demonstrated corruption invited in the granting of the Lake City. But what of the blatant tayours asked by and in Lake City. But what or the blad-iant favours asked by, and in some cases given to, IOC del-egates in Melbourne's 1996 African delegates been given the new cars they asked for in

ETTUESDAY REVIEW

Young soldiers

and to Reserve

and Labour Rat

- C-- 35 would b

or in territor

an for the graing an

... mile a finance!

HER

Annum killers

.... promise no

7- 7-4 (5 1)- **bet**

Decide The bearing

for active them · Called

a Call gar

TANK AND A

- And One Se

- A training

and the second

- ...--....

...

1.02

7- 22-0(4) John Reid promise

Allem Twass

*THE INDEPENDENT

1 CANADA SQUARE, CANARY WHARF, LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171 345 2435 THE INDEPENDENT ON THE INTERNET: WWW.INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

There is no peace where gunmen rule private fiefdoms

NORTHERN IRELAND'S peace process now faces yet another dilemma. Although the paramilitary ceasefires another duemma. Authorize the production of the state of evidence is emerging that so-called "punishment beatings" are on the increase in the province itself.

> This is a matter just as serious as if the mainland were heing bombed. An attack in London that killed no one, because warnings were phoned in, would attract much more press attention than the mainings and shootings that go under the relatively innocuous title of "beatings", even though the latter have done more physical and emotional harm. The Government has seemed so far to he turning a hiind eye to these beatings. Northern Ireland has effectively been treated as a special case; this must cease.

> Terrorist gangs have most power in their private fiefs among Northern Ireland's working-class housing estates, on which extortion, drug-dealing and intimidation are rife. This prevents the establishment of that civil society that Northern Ireland so desperately needs, and undermines the rule of law. If peace means anything, it must mean a return to normality. That still seems some way off.

This is the reason senior Labour figures are calling for the whole peace process to be slowed down: Labour MPs. including Frank Field and Henry Barnes, the vice-chair Jul Labour's Northern Ireland committee, have tabled a Commons motion arguing that prisoner release cannot continue while the organisations of which the prisoners are members continue to maim and disfigure people. Coming from members of a party historically sympathetic to Irish nationalism, this should serve as a warning to Sinn Fein and the IRA that the patience of the British Government and public is wearing thin.

Mo Mowlam and Tony Blair do not have many cards left to play, since there is so little ground left to give in the political process. Unionists will veto Sinn Fein's membership of any Northern Ireland Executive without the decommissioning of arms; the Government can make no more have left is the release of prisoners.

Prisoner release should be slowed, to show that the Government still has some bargaining power. Further releases should also be tied to decommissioning, for the process will collapse anyway without some measure of decommissioning. This is a dangerous gamble - it may provoke a violent response from the paramilitaries - but is the only pean goods is no laughing matter. The arbitrary rag-bag leverage the Government now has. Citizens living on the British mainland, relieved that they no longer live in fear of some new atrocity, should remember that many of their fellow citizens in Northern Ireland daily face the reality of intimidation. That is unacceptable; if the Government ignores it, its negligence will not be forgotten.



Our moral duty to the Caribbean nations

concessions in that direction. The only inducement they ALMOST UNNOTICED, a major trade war is threatening to hreak out between Europe and the US. Because the dispute concerns the humble banana, it seems difficult to take the subject seriously; media coverage of impending American sanctions has been sparse, to say the least. This is misguided in the extreme.

> The imposition of \$520m (£324m) worth of tariffs on Euroof goods covered by the American action includes cashmere - threatening hundreds of jobs in Scotland - and a range of textiles, foodstuffs and other consumer goods. Worse, sanctions could threaten an all-out trade war, in which Britain has much to lose.

Free trade is in everyone's interests in the long run. But

Europe's efforts to secure a few years' exemption for their former colonies in the Caribbean are justified. Some islands are totally dependent on this one trade. If protection were to be removed immediately, the economy of such islands - St Lucia, for example - would be destroyed. Europe has a moral duty, having created the banana plantations, to make sure that Caribbeans do not pay for the decisions we imposed upon them in the past. At the same time, money should be provided to allow diversification into other industries, such as tourism. Some islands, such as Barbados, have already embarked on this process. There is no reason why other islands cannot follow suit.

As to our mutual obligations to the rules of the World Trade Organisation, America's threatened sanctions are precipitate. They bring to mind its heavy-handed approach to trade with Cuba in 1996 and 1997. Then, the US attempted to punish European companies' American subsidiaries if they traded with Cuba, criminalising those hreaking no law in their own country, and causing months of wrangling.

The Americans may be hluffing. The EU has made a series of concessions in an attempt to head off sanctions; the World Trade Organisation's Disputes Settlement Body has not yet ruled on the conflicting claims for that package, making the legal status of sanctions questionable, to say the least. Europe stood its ground over Cuba, securing a last-minute deal. It must stand up to the Americans again, to secure an acceptable compromise.

A harsh lesson

JAPANESE SCHOOLDAYS are so unremittingly repressive that they are known as "the grey years". Yet now some schools are degenerating into chaos. It is startling. We knew that over-concentration on the "basics" could stifle the development of imaginative human capital. Now we find that barsh discipline can't keep children well behaved. The warning from Japan about rigidity is timely and potent.

There is a way to make parental choice a reality for everyone

----FORGET DNA. Proof of our close links to the insecure, competitive, skull-" smashing troglodytes of the Ice Age is nowhere more evident in modern society than when we buy and sell our houses, or choose our children's schools. The trust and restraint that characterise most social transactions disappear, and are replaced by a dynamic selfishness. Even sweeties who adopt Sudanese orphans and are paragons of recycling turn into monsters when there's a chance of an extra five grand on the house sale or when junior can't get into that little school with the great reputation.

Over the weekend, readers of The Mnil on Sunday were diverted by a gigantic splash headlined "Parents' tury Over Blairs in School Place Row". The mommies and daddies in nuertion were brassed off because

ocal Catholic Sacred Heart primary school, had failed to get places in the Sacred Heart comprehensive school smith, west London. But the Blairs' 500 yards or so away, in Hammerdaughter, Kathryn (based, of course, in Westminster) had been admitted.

Over other issues the parents who allowed themselves to be interviewed by The Mail on Sunday might have used more discretion before sounding off against the admission of one small girl to the Sacred Heart. But this was caveperson stuff. A Mrs Maria Mavrokefalos (which I think is Greek for "big brain") demanded: "What right has Tony Blair to get his daugh-Her into our school?" And a Linda Gray asserted that, "It's simple - the Blairs have taken somebody's place."

Let's deal with rights in a moment. But first there's this issue of stolen places. Now, admittedly arithmetic is not my strong point, but I cannot see how wee Kathryn has managed to keep out all 11 of the rejected Sacred Hearters. There must be at least another 10 carpet-bagging pre-teens, so who are they? For some reason we are not told. Aware, however, that the issue must - mathematically - go beyond the youngest Blair, The Mail on Sunday reaches for the word "embarrassment" (journalese for "no actual sin has been committed, but we want to run the story anyway") and then, more hopefully, for "contradictions in Labour's policy".

And it's true that there is an issue here; but it is by no means a Labour issue. Mr Blunkett's School Standards and Framework Act, which has recently become law, is primarily an attempt to bring some kind of order to an area - schools admissions policies - that has become increasingly chaotic and unsatisfactory. The previous government had become hopelessly entangled in the contradiction between increased selection (which it favoured) and the diametric opposite, parental choice (which it also favoured). Sitting in the middle were Local Education Authorities, obliged

somehow to square these circles. Theoretically what Mr Bhinkett has done is to come down on the side of choice over selection. So LEAs are required "to make arrangements enabling the parents of children living in their area to express a preference as to the school at which they wish their child to be educated", and are



DAVID AARONOVITCH

Those with money or eloquence will use their assets to achieve the best results for their children

also, along with school governors, placed under a duty "to comply with any preference [so] expressed", with certain exceptions. So, one up to Mrs Mayrokefalos?

Not really. A further clause "applies the duty to comply with parental preference... by parents living outside the LEA's administrative area". This is in fact pretty sensible. For many people the local school may well be outside their LEA boundaries.

But lying athwart any direct path to unconstrained parental choice are two deep chasms. The first is the desire to prevent ghettoisation (sorry!), hy attempting to ration schools' intake of children according to ability. So the Act permits selection only "providing those arrangements are designed to secure that (a) pupils... are representative of the

level of ability is substantially overrepresented or under-represented". In addition, specialist schools are permitted to select up to 10 per cent of incoming pupils on the basis of "aptitude" in the specialism, hut not according to ability.

The second, and much greater chasm, is the fact that lots of parents choose the same schools, and these schools aren't hig enough to accommodate all would-be pupils. Since no one has found a magic way to grow popular schools, or to shrink unpopular ones, there has to be some form of rationing. Mr Blunkett's Act does not really tell us how, or by whom, this

feat is to be accomplished. Let us return to the Sacred Heart. The surge of popularity that has led to an increase in applications over places surely follows a recent Ofsted report that the High School was "very good". Word gets around. Parents in these Woodheadian days know that "very good" for a girls' school means guaranteed qualifications, not many

drugs and no pregnancies. I imagine that West London is suddenly full of lapsed Catholics with 11year-old daughters, who have just rediscovered their faith. A few years ago, when our family was playing the game of "what school?", I found myself at a local C of E primary telling a headmistress how even a semi-Jewish atheist could have a strong respect for the religious traditions of others, while my partner (once Welsh chapel) tried to recall whether John the Bap-

tist came before or after Christ. Our problem was that the popular

full spread of ability... and (b) that no local primaries had unofficial "catchment areas" that took in about 10 houses, and the unpopular ones were. er, unpopular. So we used our wiles to suggest the contribution that we might make to the communal life of the school. We considered moving into one of the 10 houses. Had we been even more unscrupulous we might have joined those who fraudulently rent a postal address very close to the

school of choice. Or we could at that point have taken flight, as so many friends did, to the private sector. This is Mrs Mayrokefalos again, on Tony Blair: "He can afford to go to private school." And she went on: "He's even taken away my daughter's right to an assisted place." Yes, well. That sounds a bit like an assisted quote to me. And there never was such a thing as a "right to an assisted place"

There is no big, happy solution here. While some schools are seen to be better than others, parents will be in competition for places. As information about school performance is disseminated, this competition is likely to become more intense, not less. And those with money, eloquence or really convincing social problems will use their assets to achieve the best results for their children.

There is, therefore, only one substantial strategy for alleviating that parental angst, and protecting us all from sporadic outbreaks of Mavrokefalitis. It's to make all schools better. So that when little Zoe, Chloe, Seth and Josh fail to get into St Wonderful's, they still have Prettygood High to fall back on.

might become public is a de-

THE EUROPEAN press has just begun investigating IOC head who would never make it to the tuned, sports fans. The Washington Post, US

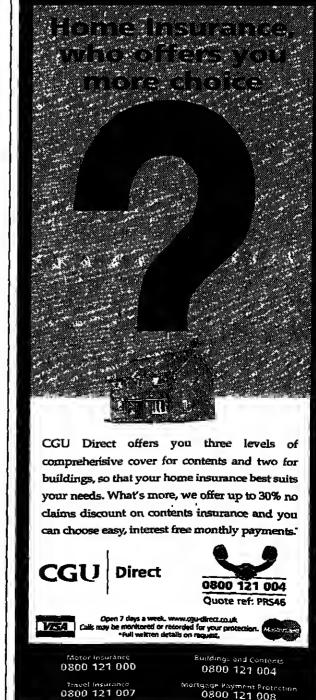
QUOTE OF THE DAY

"My career must have slipped – this is the first time I've been available to pick up an award" Michael Cnine,

British actor THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Whatever you do will be insignificant, but it is very important that you do it." Mahaima Gandhi,

Indian sage



ONE OF the higgest problems n tackling corruption is definng it. When does nepotism and cronyism become bribery and corruption? There has

xer demonstrated corruption Ted in the granting of the .002 Olympic Games to Salt ake City. But what of the blaant favours asked by, and in ome cases given to, IOC del-≥gates in Melbourne's 1996 Dlympics bid? Had the six African delegates been given he new cars they asked for in The Age, Australia

return for their votes, it would have constituted corruption. Despite the latest rash of headlines, Australia does not have a habit of corruption. What we must guard against is allowing such a climate to develop. That is why those found to have engaged in seriously corrupt behaviour need to know that they will be subjected to, if not criminal penalties, the most severe punishment of all - public disgrace.

MONITOR ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

World comment on allegations of corruption

in the International Olympic Committee

return to the controllable organisations of the Olympics. We must avoid economics tating its law to the organis- regulate. The IOC is repre-

THIS AFFAIR will enable us to ational committees. The IOC must also agree to becoming somewhat more condensed: 115 members is too much 25 or taking the upper hand and dic- 30 would be far more easy to

sentative of society but not representative of sport. Le Monde, France

IT IS appropriate that dele-

gates be treated to a high stan-dard of accommodation and dining and receive some gifts. When the giving of gifts turns into corruption can be a matter of degree, but is principally a matter of transparency. The test is whether those giving or receiving would want it publicly known. The possibility that it

terrent, which is why the media mentality is so ess Sydney Morning Herald,

Juan Antonio Samaranch and some of his associates, including some roguish characters cover of a Wheaties box. Stay

PANDORA

humiliated and distraught FIRST GORDON Brown Morgan admitted to Pandora: managed to lose Charlie "I am slightly bemused that I Whelan, but now it's his don't seem to have the right girlfriend, Sarah Macauley, criteria to join a media club. wbose has mislaid a dear I'm a desperate man, I need friend: her cat, Felix. Many to he there drinking with the hoped that the tom would media luvvies. Please, follow in Humphrey's paw Pandora, do something to prints and hecome the new help me." While the Downing Street cat. Groucho's membership Unfortunately, he has been secretary suggests that he missing for the past two weeks. Macauley has used reapply, Pandora would be only too delighted to share a her extensive PR experience vodka fizz with the cheerful in an effort to find Felix. chap and welcomes him as Posters of the four-year-old her guest whenever he hlack and white tom cat have been posted around the South chooses. London area where she lives. According to friends, Felix MEANWHILE, MIRROR bears a striking resemblance columnist Tony Parsons has to the Iron Chancellor. Sarah been the unintentional hutt has transformed Felix into a of an "in joke" this week. friendly, confident, outgoing Sunday's episode of the creature and friends speculated about the "Felix **BBC** series The Lakes factor" which seemed to be

shows two characters fast working on Mr Brown. Cats asleep in front of their TV have always been associated while one of Parsons' with superstition. Could this appearances on the Late Review programme (also be an omen? BBC) plays out. The Lakes was created by Jimmy McGovern, whose credits FRANK JOKLIK, president of Salt Lake City's scandal-ridden bid for the 2002 include Hillsborough, a TV drama telling the story of the 1989 football tragedy Winter Olympics, is a and much praised by **British Honorary Consul.** Pandora has learnt that Parsons. When Pandora spoke to Parsons about the Joklik, who resigned amidst "tribute" paid to him by The (denied) allegations of Lakes, he had pity rather corruption earlier this than praise: "Jimmy month, receives an McGovern has turned into a "honorarium" (paid sad old hack." expenses) from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for his services and has ACTRESS JULIA Sawalha done so since 1994. The allegations against him – (pictured), known for her role that he helped hribe International Olympic Committee officials to win Salt Lake City's Olympic

by the British Consulate

the FO revealed

they were "taking

these allegations

seriously, hut we

support them".

always happy to

lend a helping hand

to a desperate man,

which is why she is

campaign to allow

the adorable Piers

Morgan, editor of

The Mirror, to gain

membership to the

persuaded to apply

for membership to

the media hang-out

by his uncle. His

membership was

turned down. His

"fabulous" letter.

which started off

say that even if it

would not accept

Mr Morgan. A

wasn't full, the club

saying that the

new year was blighted

by what Piers called a

membership was full

and then proceeded to

Groucho Club.

Morgan was

evidence to

PANDORA IS

launching a

have not seen any

as the dowdy daughter Saffy in Ab Fab, has been telling of the spirituality of her own home life. Currently doing the rounds with The Memory of hid - have been investigated Water in the West End, General in Los Angeles, and Sawalha says: "My dad he is due to make a report (Jordanian actor, Nadim shortly. A call to the boys at Sawalha) is a natural philosopher and my guru. I went to see the Dalai Lama once and I was surprised

at the number of things he said which my dad had aiready told us at the kitchen sink." Obviously, the kitchen sink is the place to be for enlightenment. After all, it's where to find the Fairy, the Flash and the mug.

WHILE ORANGE iuice is not really Pandora's style, she was rather taken aback in the mnch hyped Titanic bar in London when her puritan friend ordered the classie vitamin drink only to be told that there was none. "We have orange juice as a mixer hut we don't serve it on its own," explained a barman. This glitch was fixed by ordering a ensible vodka and orange and asking the barman to hold the vodka. The things a girl has to do for a simple drink these days.

What's so special about creating life?

THE NEWS that Dr Craig Venter, one of the world's great DNA hackers. is planning to make a life form of his own with a cut-down set of 300 genes from a micro-organism dramatises the power that scientists now have over life.

We've known for almost all of this century that there's nothing chemically special about life. The difference between living and unliving things is simply in the way that their molecules are arranged. In principle, and given the right chemicals, you can make a kind of biological Meccano kit with which you can build any animal. But it is still extraordinary to think that scientific understanding has progressed to the point where Dr Venter thinks he can assemble the minimum necessary kit for making life.

We can all imagine what the news from California should have meant: men in white coats standing over a bathtub full of chemicals, pouring from test tubes of DNA and stirring until the bath began to heave and wriggle and little things with legs and tails try to climb out up the sides. But it won't be like that. and this is for reasons that illuminate the limits as well as the powers of scientific knowledge.

The first problem is the nature of DNA itself. Despite all the talk of it as a molecule which copies itself, it tainly never existed before. Since he



ANDREW **BROWN**

The massacres in Kosovo threaten our dignity more than anything brewed in Dr Venter's test tubes

can't copy itself except when it is part of a cell and surrounded by the right proteins, which come into contact with it in the right order. People talk in shorthand of DNA replicating itself, but this is no more true than saying that my word processing program can print without being installed in a properly equipped computer.

Dr Venter thinks he has designed a string of DNA containing 300 genes which can specify a cell that will build more of the same string of DNA. If it works, this cell will be a form of life that has almost cer-

has an excellent track record in the manipulation of DNA, people are saying that, if anyone can do it, he can. And even if he fails, it is almost certain to be done by someone within the next 10 years. The difficulty is that this new form of life needs old life as its raw material. DNA is not enough. It can't copy itself. There must also be a cell which can use the DNA to make more of the same.

What Dr Venter seems to be planning is to use a blender, rather than a bathtub: instead of dropping his strands of 300 genes into a chemical soup, he is going to drop them into chopped up cells of Mycoplasma genitalia, the micro-organism from which they were originally derived. This is similar to the way in which Dolly the sheep was made.

It's not quite reproducing the way in which life must have started on earth, because on the primitive earth there were no cells, and probably no DNA either. That whole mechanism must have evolved from simpler chemical precursors. But what he proposes to do is going a long way back towards the beginning of life: Dr Venter will take two sets of chemicals that are indisputably dead and, by mixing them, produce an organism that is alive (even if the life of a bacterium lacks interest and excitement)

That doesn't make him Dr Frankenstein. There's a huge leap to be made from creating life to designing it; and even if the experiment works, no one knows in detail why these 300 genes should be the ones necessary to create a life form. Dr Venter himself says that he only knows what 200 of them do. The other 100 seem necessary to a functioning cell, but he doesn't know why.

Human beings are, of course, infinitely more complex. We have between 70,000 and 80,000 genes, though it will take decades of work to find out how many there are exactly and what functions they perform. Since we already have a perfectly good and pleasurable way of creating human beings without any scientific apparatus at all, our erest in human genetics lies in designing rather than creating, and for most interesting purposes that will require a lot more knowledge than

in sight today. Yet the road ahead is clear in principle. There is no longer anything special about life that science can detect. The difficulty that these discoveries raise is that we want science to reinforce our moral intuitions, and it's not often very good at the job. it is beginning to look as if the sanctity of life must be a religious illusion. But this is not necessarily the case.

An alternative to the idea of morality as a religious illusion is that it is just an evolutionary illusion evolved to keep our ancestors alive by paying respectful attention to things large enough to eat us. Consequently, our intuitive idea of "life" is something big enough to see, but this intuition could hardly be more wrong. Most of life, through most of history, has always been singlecelled; and it's almost as difficult for a human being fully to imagine this as it would be for a bacterium to conceive of the sanctity of human life

But there is an alternative to both these rather ghastly perspectives. After all, we can't reasonably expect the universe to take any notice of human beings, even if it were the sort of thing that could take notice. Life is special only to other living things, and human life is special to

We do not love, or even hate, our fellows for their chemical constituents. We love them because they're loveable, and hate them because they're the wrong, sort of human: Serbs, Muslims or whatever The massacres in Kosovo are a much greater threat to human dignity than anything brewed in Dr Venter's test tubes

Andrew Brown's book 'The Darwin Wars' will be published by Simon & Schuster in March

Enough of these betrayals by the friends of great writers

TO THE many difficulties attending the creative life may now be added a new peril. Outside the study, downstairs preparing hunch, or hreezing his way towards you for a weekend stay, may be a spouse or a lover or a friend, taking notes. When, at some distant point in the future. something goes wrong - a relationship goes helly-up, a friendship turns sour, a terrible change occurs in your life - the notes could become a book and your loathsome, undignified, domestic self will be revealed to the world. One false move, and the stalker in your intimate life will be off to the nearest literary agent.

Betrayal is in the air and, in a sense, there's nothing new about that. For years, part of the deal of being a celebrity was that where there was an ex, there would soon be an exposé. In this age of public intimacy, no one is particularly surprised when the abandoned wife of an eminent politician or the sister of a famous cellist decides to share their pain with a bracing course of hardback therapy.

Nowhere has the contagion of memoirs caused more anxiety, confusion and hypocrisy than in the literary world. In the latest edition of the New York Review of Books, John Updike has written an edgy, heartfelt critique of what he calls "the Judas biography", listing recently published hooks from the new enragés: Philip Roth's ex-wife. Claire Bloom: JD Salinger's exlover, Joyce Maynard; and VS Naipaul's ex-friend. Paul Theroux.

Over in The Spectator, Rafael Garcia-Navarro, a friend of Bloom's. deconstructed Roth's latest novel I Married a Communist, earnestly identifying real events and people



TERENCE BLACKER

The rise of the Judas biography was inevitable as there is a hunger for tales of hurt and damage

deployed in the fiction, complaining that Roth had vampirically usurped the stories of those once close to him. Another confessional memoir, representing a gentler form of vampirism, has, meantime, heen garlanded with praise.

The rise of the Judas biography was somehow inevitable. Each of these writers was reacting to two powerful cultural impulses of the moment: the interest in writers' lives, as evidenced in the boom in literary hiographies, and the vogue for the confessional memoir. There's a public hunger for tales of hurt and damage, and if the villain of the piece happens to be a previously revered and haughty public figure, so much the better.

Roth, Naipaul and Salinger are prime candidates for dehunking. We want our novelists to play the part, to appear on chat shows and tell anecdotes about deals and Hollywood and famous pals - to he

people's writers. Each of these three has behaved with a Flaubertian bauteur towards the publicity game, putting the demands of their work before matters of politeness, decency, etiquette and kindness.

It is the reaction of the coconspirators in the Judas game, literary commentators and hookbuyers, which has been odd and interesting. So eager have the critics been to place on record their moral outrage that, almost without exception, they have misread these books. Behind the hurt and anger in Paul Theroux's Sir Vidia's Friendship is almost a love letter to the man who for several decades was his mentor and hest friend. It's not a great book, but a good and an honest one which bears no resemblance to the hatchet joh that has been widely portrayed. Certainly no conventional memoir could reveal with such masochistic honesty the reallties - emotional, mental, social, financial - of being a seriousminded, professional writer in the second half of the 20th century.

Similarly misrepresented, Maynard's intriguing, if slight memoir, At Home in the World, has been an excuse for more trills of moral outrage directed at both the book's subject (Pervert! Bonkers!), and its author (Sneak! Cry-baby!).

The most serious effect of these memoirs is, of course, not on the reputations of their subjects as good, upstanding citizens - which authors are? - hut on readings of their work. A retroactive pall is likely to be cast over Naipaul's fiction by the knowledge that he was so personally bigoted and unpleasant. Even the sublime The Catcher in the Rye is likely to be tarnished by an aware-



Actress Claire Bloom with her ex-husband Philip Roth

ness of Salinger's non-literary interest in teenage girls. However determinedly we may dismiss the reduction of I Married a Communist to an agglomeration of true incidents, vengefully deployed, any reading of it as fiction is fatally undermined by a base curiosity as to whether Claire Bloom really did this, or Gore Vidal did that.

But if that is the true betrayal, what do we make of the one confessional memoir to bave been universally acclaimed, John Bayley's Iris? Clearly a good and loving man, Bayley describes in clear-eyed, moving terms the descent of Iris Murdoch, his wife and one of our great novelists, into a state of clinging. child-like dementia. It is obviously a sincere work but - by the criteria against which the other memoirs have been judged - does it intrude unjustifiably into a writer's private life? Will it cast a shadow over readings of that writer's work? Iris could surely be said to be the greater be-trayal than anything written by an ex-wife, lover or friend.

Yet not one commentator has questioned the wisdom of publication. The book has been extralove stories of the century, and has been short-listed for literary prizes. It is as if authors are now judged on their motives and behaviour, as if critics are careful to align themselves with all that is good and caring in the world, enacting a literary version of the Diana effect.

Perhaps none of it, neither moral outrage nor exaggerated praise, will matter too much. Briefly, these books will catch the headlines and appeal to those who distrust the power of good novelists to shape and use everyday experience to tell a greater truth than any memoir. But in the end it will be the works, not the flawed, blundering lives that produced them, which will live on

HAMISH

MCRAE

The most serious ch

against the IOC is

one of corruption -

is one of incompete

IT IS a remarkable contras

phrase "Olympic Games" c

great clout as a 5lobal brane

bolising human achievemen

excellence. Yet a fair propor

the people who run them

been revealed to be crooss.

fair proportion of the partic

have been revealed to he dru

same story that has taken of

other sports, except that the

seems to be, er, more Olympu

sports are in the process of

forming themselves from co-

ative or charitable andanis-

into businesses. All sport is g

offy being transformed it reach of the entertainmen dustry. However the ethical

auditing standards under t

most husinesses have been in

to operate over the years are

gradually being extended to t

too new to have acquired

standard business discipl.

Company directors who ac

hribes and are laught as to

though maybe not for as were as should. Members of the infe

tional Olympic Committee :

can't even see what is wrong

trousering the odd brown unve

For those of us whose I

r**if**erience of sport has bewel g

skudg on heliday or ibrietly and

successfully club rurby, the

that sport should be a business

any other is still a bit jurning .

any other "Well, yes - all busing

es are different and the gap

tween say Formula (no and or the hig Hollywood andors h

narrower than that being

Microsoft and its neighbour

Scattle, Boeing, The first two re

a product you sit and watch

entertainment while the output

the other two is quite different.

teresting in business com-

cause it is one of the bill times glo

TV sports events, ft commands

largest single television audience

a sports event, larger even that fr

ball's World ("up. However since"

Olympics and the World Cup to

place only every four years, (

lated on an annual basis is that

Formula One.

The Olympics is particularly

The husiness aspects of Spo

What has haooened is mu-

Something is up

"IF ANYTHING was worth banks ing yourself for tulips were," wi Anna Pavord. She will not have le penny on this six-year venture. w has already attracted more colinches than most gardening book well as serialisation on Radio 4. F ever. The Tulip is not a gardening t in the conventional sense, nor is monograph. But it is definitely a w or great scholarship, tracing history of the plant with a remark

Before you emhark on The Tu suggest you find a comforta armchair and put a seriously la cushion on your lap, or your arms tire well before your curiosity. Th

TUESI

BY MICH Her yea So finel She divi Every ch In the weath Though w Only, a She fore Departu By not be

Benind ti She will I Or hunt: All mc Into he That contain And more, of her !

Dies, it is m Our poems this week a Collected Poems 194

demonstrate that the pri

you will. Thank you, Mr

***THE INDEPENDENT**

'LIGHTS FOR LIFE' - Just £24.95 for the set inc p&p

A flashlighi Vocaki last for cars most d m't' A flashlight should come supplied with batteries - again most don't and haueries cont at least as much as the touch! This set of three rom "Garnzy" in the hand-held lighting, are under normal use and come either with super heavy duty or alkaline batteries All 5 torches are constructed from super high impac with rubber

knocks and water 100. 5 different forches mean you don't have to hunt for a flashlight any m there values one where was need it. The powerful "Rugged Area Lite" is dual function and can be used either as a conventional flashlight or as a 360 area light - a great all round companion for indoors or outdoors. The "Rugged Life" is similar to the "Area Lite" but used as a convenional flashlight perfect for keeping in the car. And finally, the smart new "Clip"N Lite" which is the ideal high-powered "hands-free" mini

companion, "Clip" N Lite" has a beam that adjusts from spot to flood combined with a 180 degree swivel head, a high intensity krypton bulb plus space, protected push button on/off switch and a handy, versaule clip.
All of these 3 superb flashlights, complete with batteries, are on offer for just £24.95 including postage and packing and come with a lifetime guarantee.

ted so order now and avoid disa Independent Sew spapers (UK) Limited Registered in England No. 1408967 Fill in the coupon quoting your MASTER.
CARD-VISA number, or send with cheque o postal orders. NO CASH. to:
THE ENDEPENDENT TORCH SET OFFER.
TRURRED L BOUSE, LOMBARD ROAD, Or call the CREDIT CARD ORDER **BOTLINE ON 0181 540 9696** ACCESS/MASTERCARD velcome Please quote ref. IND 207. Allow 28 days for delivery. Subject to availability. If you are not fully satisfied return within 7 days for a full refund. Please send me ____Torch Set/s & enclose a crossed cheque/PO for

raddress on back) made payable DELETENDENT NEWSPAPELS (LEI) LTD (NOSF Expery Date ____/___

ADDRESS

Send is THE PADERENDENT TORCH SET OFFER.

This is a time to rise above politics & WE ARE here today beagers make their opening

cause the President suffered a terrible moral lapse of marital infidelity; not a breach of the public trust, not a crime against society, the two things Hamilton talked about in Federalist Paper No 65 - I recommend it to you before you vote - but it was a breach of his marriage vows. It was a breach of his family trust. It is a sex scandal.

HL Mencken one time said, "When you hear somebody say, 'This is not about money" it's about money." And when you hear somebody say. This is not about sex', it's about sex. You pick your own adjective to describe the President's conduct. Here are some that I would use: indefensible, outrageous, unfor-

givahle, shameless. I promise you the President would not contest any of those, or any others. But there is a human element in this case that has not even been mentioned. That is, the President and Hillary and Chelsea are human beings. This is intended only as a mild criticism of our distinguished friends from the House. But as I listened to the presenters, to the manstatements, they were remarkably well prepared and they spoke eloquently - more eloquently than I really had

hoped. To say constantly that the President lied about this and lied about that - as I say, I thought that was too much for a family that has already been about as decimsted as a family can get. The relationship between husband and wife, father and child, has been incredibly strained, if not destroyed.

There has been nothing hut sleenless nights, mental agony, for this family, for almost five years, day after day, from accusations of having Vince Foster assassinated, on down. It has been bizarre.

The question about lying; that is your decision. But I can tell you, put yourself in his posltion - and you have already had this hig moral lapse - as to what you would do. We are, none of us, perfect. I remember, Chaplain - the Chaplain is not here, too had, he ought to hear this story. This evangelist was holding this great revival meeting and in the close of one of his meetings he said, "Is



PODIUM

DALE BUMPERS The Lead Manager concludes the

defence case for President Clinton in the US Senate

who has ever known anybody who even comes close to the perfection of Our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ?" Nothing. He repeated the challenge and, finally, a little-hitty guy in the back held up his hand. 'Are you saying you have known such a person? Stand up." He stood up and the evangelist said, "Tell us, who was it?" He

said, "My wife's first husband." Make no mistake: removal there anybody in this audience from office is punishment.

It is unbelievable punishment, even though the framers didn't quite see it that way Again, they said - and it bears repeating over and over again - they said they wanted to protect the people. But I can tell you this: the punishment of removing Bill Clinton from office would pale compared to the punishment he has already inflicted on himself. There is a feeling in this country that somehow or another Bill Clinton has gotten away with

something. Mr Leader, I can tell you, he hasn't gotten away with anything. Colleagues, this is easily the most important vote you

will ever cast. If you have difficulty because of an intense dislike of the President - and that is understandable - rise above it. He is not the issue. He will be gone. You won't, So don't leave a precedent from which we may never recover and almost surely will regret. If you vote to acquit, Mr. Leader, you know exactly what is going to happen.

You are going to start dealing with Medicare, Social Security, tax cuts, and all those things which the people of this country have a non-negotiable

demand that you do. If you vote to acquit, you go immediately to the people's agenda. But if you vote to convict, you can't be sure what is going to happen. James G Blaine was a member of the Senate when Andrew Johnson was tried in 1868, and 20 years later he recanted. He

said, "I made a bad mistake. "As I reflect back on it, all I can think about is that having convicted Andrew Johnson would have caused much more chaos and confusion in this country than Andrew Johnson could ever conceivably have created."

And so it is with William Jefferson Clinton

If you vote to convict, in my opinion you are going to be creating more havoc than he could ever possibly create. After all, he has only got two years left. So don't, for God's sakes, heighten the people's alienation, which is at an all-time, high, toward their Govern ment. The people have a right, and they are calling on you to rise above politics, rise above partisanship. They are calling on you to do your solemn duty, and I pray

حكنات الامل

THE TILESDAY REVIEW

ing life Let's privatise the Olympics



HAMISH **MCRAE**

The most serious charge against the IOC is not one of corruption – it is one of incompetence

IT IS a remarkable contrast. The phrase "Olympic Games" carries great clout as a global brand symbolising human achievement and excellence. Yet a fair proportion of the people who run them have been revealed to be crooks, while a fair proportion of the participants have been revealed to be druggies. Something is up.

What has happened is much the same story that has taken place in other sports, except that the scale seems to be, er, more Olympian. All sports are in the process of transforming themselves from co-operative or charitable organisations into husinesses. All sport is graduly being transformed into a

ranch of the entertainment industry. However the ethical and auditing standards under which most husinesses have been forced to operate over the years are only gradually being extended to sport.

The business aspects of sport are too new to have aequired the standard business disciplines. Company directors who accept hribes and are caught go to jail though maybe not for as long as they should, Members of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) can't even see what is wrong with rousering the odd brown envelope.

For those of us whose main rience of sport has been going king on boliday or (briefly and unsuccessfully) club rugby, the idea that sport should be a business like any other is still a bit jarring. Like any other? Well, yes - all business-es are different and the gap between, say, Formula One and one of the big Hollywood studios feels narrower than that between dicrosoft and its neighbour in Seattle, Boeing. The first two create a product you sit and watch as entertainment, while the output of an enormous amount to flood the the other two is quite different.

The Olympics is particularly interesting in husiness terms because it is one of the big three global TV sports events. It commands the largest single television audience for a sports event, larger even that foot---- ball's World Cup. However since the Olympics and the World Cup take place only every four years, the lated on an annual basis is that of Formula One.

. un.z. 1. L. L. L. E. E. تتقذان والمستعدد



The respected British hurdler Jon Ridgeon at the centennial Olympiad in Atlanta, Georgia in 1996

Not only is the audience hig; it is were it reconstituted as a combroad. Formula One and the World mercial entity. Cup are great at providing adver-The closest comparison would be tisers with large numbers of rela-

always a difficult group to reach.

access to Americans, because nei-

ther is established in the States. In-

cidentally, the position of Britain as

home of the world's most valuable

sports club, Manchester United,

and also of Formula One, gives us

a comparative advantage in this

hranch of the market which we

ought to be able to exploit further.

is global, giving access not just to

the US but also, crucially, to China.

If you are a global husiness, like

clear quite what the IOC would own

The Olympics, on the other hand,

Formula One, which is owned by tively high-spending young men, Bernie Ecclestone. When it looked as though Formula One would be They do not however, offer much floated there was talk of it being worth about £2 to £3 billion, I would expect the Olympics to be higger, largely because there must be ways In which it could be developed from a four-yearty event into something that produced subsidiary products annually. But even if it were worth £3 billion that would make It about the same size as a successful chain store: bigger than Next but smaller than Dixons, a decent size, but by comparison to the power of the global brand, not enormous.

Visa, then you are prepared to pay The Olympic committee, however, is not the only beneficiary of event with your symbols. You could a global brand name. A lot of value laboriously piece together a global goes to the host cities, assuming campaign which gave you similar that they organise themselves on exposure, but with the Olympics you the Los Angeles or Atlanta models. - where they took existing facilities So there is a lot of money swishand huilt ones that could be used ing around. It is not enormous by afterwards. The alternative grand schemes as in Barcelona and, most conventional commercial standards. It is hard to put a value on disastrously, Montreal - have piled the Olympic hrand, partly because debts on the poor taxpayers for a it has not been developed comgeneration. The Australians reckmercially and partly because it is not that next year's Sydney

to the country's economy. Building and tourism are the two industries that benefit most.

Faced with numbers like that, the odd hit of lavish entertainment for a susceptible IOC member might seem pretty small beer. And if ooe of these individuals wants to take his hung in the form of cosmelic surgery on the bags under his eyes (as apparently happened in the Salt Lake City bid), so be it. Not only do these dreadful people accept bribes, but they have a seriously unstylish taste in them too.

The most serious charge against the IOC is surely not one of corruption, though that is serious enough to warrant far more than the half-dozen resignations that seem to be on the cards at the moment. It is one of incompetence.

Any business the main asset of which is a brand has to do two things. First, it must protect the credibility, the honour if you like, of that brand. You have to be squeaky clean. Here the record has over the years been dreadful. Quite aside from the corruption of members of the committee there has been the corruption of the Olympic ideal.

The most certain way of damaging a sports brand it to have it associated with drugs. Most sensible athletes know this. Those tainted by drug accusations - even those not actually caught - have found that sponsorship money dries up. Not all athletes are sensible. That is understandable. What is incomprehensible is that the IOC has not realised the potential damage to the one thing it controls, the Olympic hrand, from not adopting

an aggressive anti-drug stance.

It should, for example, retrospectively present medals to all those athletes cheated out of them by people subsequently shown to have been drug users. And the drug users should be stripped of their medals and the medal tables reconstructed. Were this to have been done years ago, a number of athletes would not have had their health ruined and - commercial point - the value of the television contract for the Olympics would be appreciably higher.

That leads to the second thing that owners of brand assets must do: add value. Take Coca-Cola, It is not a particularly marvellous product; in most blind tests people seem to prefer Pepsi. But despite the odd hiccup (most famously when Coca-Cola changed the formula) it has been wonderfully creative at developing the brand.

The Olympics are a wonderful brand, but the organisers have not taken it and developed it. They might like to look at Manchester United, which is almost certainly the most successful club in the world at building a business that has geared up the basic product into an international husiness.

The tragedy of international athletics is that this has not happened. A driven, competent, professional and, above all, clean IOC could do an enormous amount to raise the quality of life of bumankind. No, I don't mean a global campaign to get us to take more exercise. I mean using the money, the big money, that could be available to encourage athletically talented people everywhere in the world to develop themselves

All that is needed are the normal commercial and ethical standards that any decent-sized multinational should command. The present structure is clearly useless. This is not just a people problem, though it is certainly that. It is a structural problem, too. Privatise the IOC, put in professional management and have the shares owned by a trust dedicated to the Olympic ideal... why not?

RIGHT OF REPLY

JONATHAN REGGLER



A member of the British Medical Association's

general practitioner committee responds to a leader on Viagra

A LEADER in The Independent of 23 January assumes that the British Medical Association (BMA) sees the conflict with the Government over Viagra as an issue of clinical freedom and uses this as an opportunity to do a bit of doctor bashing. It was particularly galling to be told that the BMA should be engaged in persuasive arguments "that National Health Service spending as a whole is too low". The BMA has been saying this for years and has published endless figures to prove it. Why successive governments have not found the arguments persuasive is a question that begs an answer.

The BMA's general practitiooer committee (of which I am a member) rejected the guidelines of Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, and advised GPs to prescribe Viagra to those in need for two reasons. Firstly, NHS regulations ruling GPs' lives explicitly require us to prescribe those drugs that our patients need. Only certain drugs are banned, and Viagra is not yet one of them. Minor infringements of these regulations can lead to severe punishments, but Mr Dobson wants us to ignore the regulations when it suits him.

Secondly, whilst most GPs accept that rationing in the fair and logical Mr Dobson, had two ethically acceptable choices. Viagra for all of those in need or Viagra for no one. To give Viagra on the NHS only to those made impotent by a narrow range of causes and to deny it to all other impotent men is indeed, to use the words of the BMA, "cruel and unethical".

On the scent of flower power

Olympics will be worth about £4bn

"IF ANYTHING was worth bankrupting yourself for, tulips were," writes Anna Pavord. She will not have lost a penny on this six-year venture, which has already attracted more column inches than most gardening books, as well as serialisation on Radio 4. However, The Tulip is not a gardening book in the conventional sense, nor is it a monograph. But it is definitely a work of great scholarship, tracing the history of the plant with a remarkably

Before you embark on The Tulip, I suggest you find a comfortable armchair and put a seriously large cushion on your lap, or your arms will creamy flowers sometimes streaked tire well before your curiosity. There and flecked with red", to T zenaidae,



get it with one shot.

TUESDAY BOOK

THE TULIP BY ANNA PAVORD, BLOOMSBURY, £30

is a wonderful illustration on virtually every other page, so it takes until page 279 before you get to the invaluable index of varieties. Pavord writes lyrically about each species, from Tulipa acuminata, "with its crazy, very tall, thin bud opening to

TUESDAY POEM

CAT. AGING BY MICHAEL HAMBURGER

Her years measure mine. So finely set in her ways, She divines, she sniffs out Every change in the bouse, In the weather, and marks it for me Though with a flick of her ear Only, a twitch of her tail. She foretells convolutions. Departure, thunderstorm, By not being there - hiding Benind the heater At times She will play yet, kitttenish. Or hunt; but then gathers All movement, vanity Into her great stillness

That contains the whole of herself And more, of her kind. When she stays there, Dies, it is me she'll prove mortal.

Our poems this week come from Michael Hamburger's 'Collected Poems 1941-1994' (Anvil Press, £12.95)

with yellow flowers that are "elegantly waisted, the top third of the

flower flipping outwards". She goes on to describe, in a way any sports writer would envy, the cultivars - tulips hred for show and classified into various divisions, like football stars. Starting with Abu Hassan', which is a "dark mahogany-red with an edge of gold around the top half of the petals", she continues to 'Zwanenhurg', which is "a pure white with plum-coloured stamens".

Before Pavord tantalises us with the range of tulips available today, she takes the reader through the plant's origins, moving from its mountain habitats in the East to its pride of place in the sultan's palaces. She explains how the name came about through a wonderful misunderstanding. The Flemish ambassador to the court of Suleyman the Magnificent, in 15th century Constantinople, claimed the honour of introducing the tulip to Europe. He also managed to confuse his interpreter's description of the flower, which looks like a turban ("tulband" in Turkish), with the name of the flower itself, which the Turks

called "lole". The plot thickens as we follow the fame and fortune of the tulip through northern Europe to Britain. Pavord speculates that, if England had not been busy with a civil war in the mid-17th century, we, too, might have been caught up in the financial speculation that spread through Holland. There bulbs were traded in much the same seed to mature into a hulb of flowering size. Bulbs were often sold as they lay huried in the ground, their potential unknown. Yet at the height of this trading, a single tulip might fetch as much as an Amsterdam town house.

Prized varieties were given elaborate names, such as the famous 'Semper Augustus', while the most handsome flowers were painted by the greatest Dutch artists as if they had been society hostesses. This celebrity status added to the mystique of the tulip, as did its unfathomable secret: why certain plants should "break" and then produce such exciting colour combinations. Not until 1928 was it discovered that these colour breaks were caused by a virus that weakened the plants. However, even after the financial crash that marked the end of tulip mania, the Dutch refused to give up on tulips. The rich altuvial soil around Haarlem was soon given over to increased production, which continues to this day.

In 18th century Britain and Ireland. the tulip was no longer the plaything of the rich hut a plant that could be enjoyed by anyone who wished to join their local floral society. These societies were devoted to the culture of one plant and their meetings took place in inns. There were magazines that fed the florist's interest, and a great rivalry developed between the north and south of Britain over the perfect form of the florist's tulip. Interestingly, the demise of the floral societies coincided with football's first FA Cup final, played in 1872. Today, only the Wakefield and the North of

England Tulip Society remains. While tulips seemed to be going out of favour in early 20th century Britain. the Dutch seized the moment by way as the stock market deals in com- launching a new breed called Darwins. Pieter van Kouwenhoorn, made in

seen today as clever marketing. It Darwin's son They started a new tulip takes up to seven years for tulip invasion, and the Dutch now export at least 2 hillion tulips a year.

Even though her book covers more ground than one might consider possible. Payord still seems like a detective who is not quite sure if she has solved all the tulip's mysteries. If she has not got the tulip out of her system. she has certainly succeeded in spreading her passion for the plant.

ROSIE ATKINS

The reviewer is the editor of Gardens Mustrated'



Tulips from the 'Florilegium' of modities, fuelled by what would be named with the permission of Charles the first half of the 17th century



01273 632 512

WATERMAN DE . PARKER . PAPERSMATE

BUSINESS

Leslie French

DESPITE A remarkably varied soon followed him south of the river career over nearly three-quarters of a century during which he appeared in everything from musical revue and pantomime, through Shakespeare, Milton and Eliot and a final trenchant cameo on television in Dennis Potter's The Singing Detective (1986), Leslie French (like his fellow verticallychallenged and similarly farouche contemporary Richard Goolden, the perennial Mole of Tood of Toad Hall) is fated always to be associated primarily with one particular role.

But then his Ariel, first tackled during an annus mirabilis at the Old Vic in a 1930 Tempest to John Gielgud's first Prospero, a memorable performance in itself, also received a kind of immortality often denied to much starrier actors. The performances of Gielgud and French, the talk of London at the time, inspired Eric Gill's carving of Prospero with his staff towering over Ariel above the entrance to the then brand new Broadcasting House in Portland Place (and Ariel remains the title of the BBC house magazine).

All of French's early background and training informed and nourished his Ariel (which he played on numerous occasions during his career) and other memorable performances of Shakespeare's elementals and clowns as well as his equally striking Attendant Spirit in several revivals of Milton's Comus at the Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, of which he became a mainstay at the height of his career.

He was born in Bromley in 1906. His education in the London School of Choristers developed a natural musical talent and he was incurably stagestruck even before his first appearance as a boy actor in a 1914 Christmas show at the Little Theatre. He joined the touring Ben Greet Company as soon as he could leave school (aged 14), basically as a general dogsbody and prompter, and those apprentice years with Greet fuelled his passion for Shakespeare.

His singing ability and physical grace the was a first-rate dancer and a superb skater well into old age) landed him an early West End Job in 1929 at the Hippodrome, understudying Bohhy Howes as the lovelorn hero of Vivian Ellis's mu- Embassy Theatre. In this oddity of know them?"). French, however, sical Mr Cinders, taking over the title a mood-piece, set against a louche emerged extremely well from this role and its hit song "Spread a Lit- inter-war Bohemian London in a succes d'estime. regional tour.

Then in 1930 be joined the Old Vic at the beginning of a golden period in its history. After a mutually wary interview, Lilian Baylis had grudg-ingly agreed a salary of £20 a week for John Gielgud, then an emergent West End star, to join the company. With a run of parts including his first attempts at Hamlet, Lear, Prospero and Macbeth (as well as Anthony, Malvolio and Richard ID. Gielgud made the Waterloo Road a vital address for classically-minded younger actors and both Ralph Richardson and Laurence Olivier French's Old Vic roles included Poins in Henry IV, Part I (the first production to see Gielgud and Richardson share the same stage), Eros in Antony and Cleopatra, the Fool in Lear and his Ariel.

Under the Old Vic's director Harcourt Williams, an enthusiastic vegetarian dispensing Bemax and occasional inspiration in equal measure. The Tempest (much influenced by directorial input from Gielgud, who was particularly helpful to Richardson in finding his feet as Caliban) was a revelation, not. least because of featuring the first male Ariel for a century.

Haunting in the songs, French also found a compelling and deeply touching tension between the fey sprite and the dispenser of practical magic, creating a vulnerably androgynous figure torn between devotion to his master and his yearning to be free. The performance created an additional frisson through French's athletic body-

Few actors have matched his record in Shakespeare's elementals and zanies, or invested them with such a potent blend of mischief and otherworldliness

language, his supple body naked its rescuers. Gielgud risked casting except for a minute loincloth (reher as Vera, the feckless but genermarkably daring for the English

After his Old Vic seasons French appeared under Gielgud's direction in one of the 1930s most tantalising near-misses when Rodney Ackland's Strange Orchestra St Martin's, 1932) received a West End production after a previous try-out at the including the lost and the criminal, French played Jimmie, a highlystrung young man intensely involved with fellow-lodger Laura. living just on the edge of things.

sensitive and drifting
Their joint suicide bid galvanised the latter sections of a strange but always absorbing play which despite mainly positive notices (including a perceptive one from James Agate) never caught on at the box-office. The production had not been helped by Mrs Patrick Campbell, long considered unemployable, living up to her reputation as a sinking ship firing on



French as Puck in A Midsummer Night's Dream, with Mini Theilade, at the Open Air Theatre,

ous-spirited landlady at the centre of the play, but after rehearsing gloriously for a fortnight and promising to deliver a magnificent comeback, she flounced out of the production, claiming to understand neither the play nor her characters ("She's not quite a lady, is she? Who are all these people? Does Gladys Cooper

the first time at the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park. His first season was in 1933 and he last worked there in 1958, in somewhat unlikely but extremely successful tandem with the mighty and titanvoiced Robert Atkins, poles apart physically and temperamentally from the slight and urban figure of French. Over those years he often played Ariel and Puck (the latter performance well up to the standard of his Ariel, although his one attempt at Bottom was an experiment that did not come off), as well as a

anterwards, de worked to:

panache, Sylvins, Costard, Pisanio. Phillips's starry revival of Christo-Grumio and a Feste steeped in selfmocking accidie.

Few actors have matched his record in Shakespeare's elementals and zanies: even fewer have managed to invest so many of them with such a potent blend of mischief and otherworldliness. He also directed several times at the Park (The Toming of the Shrew and As You Like It were especially successful), and his subsequent directional career took hands tellingly rewarding part of the him on many occasions to South Africa. He helped establish the oper air Maynardville Theatre in Cape Town, where the productions had multi-racial casts and audiences; as well as playing familiar roles such as

unexpectedly successful as Shylock. Really meaty stage roles were thinner on the ground at home in his later years (sadly he never had an opportunity to play a part in which the would have been perfectly cast -the mysterious Lob in J.M. Barrie's Dear Brutust, but he brought lethally silky precision to Dr Warburton in T.S. Eliot's The Family Reunion Mercutio of quicksilver wit and at Guildford (1968) and in Robin

Puck and Touchstone, he was also

pher Fry's The Lady's not for Burning in 1972 he adapted so well so quickly to his first experience of the difficult Chichester hexagonal stage (years of Regent's Park experience coming in useful here) that Richard Chamberlain, Anna Calder-Marshall and even that most larcenous of supporting actors, Harold Innocent, had to look extremely sharp whenever French, in the minor but in his

Chaplain, was on stage. He had more luck with television work as theatre opportunities dwindled, perhaps most memorably in a BBC Classic Serial of Jane Austen's Emma in which his unshowy but slyly unsentimental reading of the solipsistic Mr Woodhouse not only made the valetudinarian old monster paradoxically sympathetic, but also effortlessly stole the production away from every other actor in it.

ALAN STRACHAN

Leslie Richard French, actor and director: born Bromley. Kent 23 January 1999.

Lt-Col Tony Simonds

TONY SIMONDS played an important part behind the scenes in the Second World War in the Near Eastern theatre.

His had long been a leading family in Berkshire - the Reading brewers were his cousins and he was fond of saying, "There is no such thing as bad beer". From school at Wellington he went to farm in north Devon and after service as a Territorial was commissioned into the Royal Berkshire Regiment in 1931.

By 1936 he was serving on the in-telligence staff in Palestine, then a British mandate. He caught the attention of the Commander-in-Chief, General (later Earl) Wavell, who already thought another world war likely. If it should break out he earmarked three officers for special duty: Orde Wingate, who was operating the Special Night Squads in cooperation with militant Jews; Dudley Clarke, like Wingate a gunner, and Simonds. Simonds was able to provide Wingate with information and targets, and was one of the few officers with whom that notoriously awkward character was able to get on.

Simonds read T.E. Lawrence's Seven Pillors of Wisdom when it was published in 1935 and amused himself on a long leave by riding several of Lawrence's camel rides; from which he emerged with admiration for the man, but the certainty that the book was as much novel as solid history.

In the autumn of 1940 Simonds and Wingate worked together to prepare a supplementary invasion of Abyssinia (as Ethiopia was then called), from the west, based on Khartoum and mounted on camels; they supplemented the more formal invasion forces attacking from the north and the south-east. They were controlled by a staff in Cairo called MO4, under whom Lawrence also had once worked. MO4 was absorbed into the Special Operations Executive (SOE), the secret service for subverting and sabotaging the axis war effort.

Wingate named his expedition Gideon Force. It carried with it a political trump, the exiled emperor. Haile Selassie, whom it helped to replace on his throne in Addis Ababa. Simonds operated independentlyon its left wing, with some startling guerrilla successes; bluffing his way past superior Italian forces who were bewildered by his hit-and-run tactics and his ingenuity at creating makeshift weapons.

SOE learned important lessons from what happened to Gideon Force. whose work pre-figured several of SOE's attempts to raise underground armies in occupied Europe and to supply them by air Lectures on how ocessful the largely African force had been were soon suspended after complaints from the South African government which was uneasy at the spreading of stories about the defeat of white men by hlack.

Simonds was next tasked, on his recovery from six months' hard living in the East African bush, with the forming of SOE's section for work into Greece; from which he was called away in the autumn of 1941 to form N Section of A Force: phrases that meant nothing to a chance hearer. A Force was Dudley Clarke's deception April 1904; died Ewell, Surrey 21 | service, which worked with enormous success to confuse the enemy; its N

Section provided some cover for it by training troops of all arms in methods of escape and evasion. This was part of MI9, the escape service

Moreover, Simonds set himself to organise escape lines across occupied Eastern Europe. Here he had invaluable help from friends he had made while helping the special night squads. He came to an understanding with the Jewish Agency: they of fered him facilities in his field, on the understanding that for every escape the force brought out a Jew could come as well. He thus assisted over 3,000 Allied escaped prisoners of war and shot down airmen to get back Several of the agents be sent forward into Hungary and Romania to help form these lines fell into the hands of hostile police and came to horrihle ends; Hannah Szenes the poet among them. Others were more fortunate and survived; long after the war Simonds was warmly welcomed whenever he visited Israel.

. He also had agents operating in small boats across the Aegean. based in a cove at Cesme near Smyrna to which the local Turkish authorities were persuaded to shut their eyes. These parties too helped swell the numbers of escapers; and when the Allies moved into Italy Simonds operated up the Adriatic coast with a fleet of small boats cutting out parties of escapers who managed to get down to the short

He was seven times mentioned in despatches but his habit of speaking his mind did not endear him to higher authorities and has only British decoration was an OBE. (Wingate is said to have put him in for a DSO at the end of the Abyssinia campaign; at that stage in the war a recommendation from Wingate was itself a black mark.)

When the war was over he helper investigate some claims of peculation (then endemic in the near East), spent a year at the infant Middle East centre for Arab Studies, and was for four years deputy commander of the military mission to Saudi Arabia. A year as assistant military attaché in Cairo convinced him it was time he retired; and in 1952 he went to Cyprus to grow flowers for a living.

He became one of the leaders of the Ancient Britons, as a friendly archaeologist nicknamed the British residents who stayed in Cyprus after it became independent; but he had bad luck. When the Turks invaded in 1974 they papalmed his house; he lost all his furniture, silver and papers. He rewrote a book he had just finished: that too was destroyed in a fire. He rewrote his memoirs for a third time; those, more fortunately, are deposited in the Imperial War Museum.

'1007 Simonos was a large, burly bandsome man with a cheerful outgoing manner, always direct in speech and a stout friend to those he trusted. He fell ill and returned to England last autumn to die.

M. R. D. Fo

Anthony Charles Simonds, guerrilla leader and escape line organiser: born Arborfield, Berkshire 21 November 1909; MBE 1938, OBE 1943; married 1944 Eirwen Llewellyn Jones (two daughters; marriage dissolved 1969), 1978 Barbara Ayre; died Stevenage, Hertfordshire 7 January 1999.

Professor Roger Walker

Hispanism's most distinguished medievalists, and one of the academic community'a most able and respected administrators.

His research in Spanish medieval studies focused on the epic, the romance and hagiography, his publications including a large num-ber of articles on the Poema de mio Cid, a book on El Libro del Cavallero Zifar, and editions of El Cuvallero Piacidas and the Estoria de Santa Maria Egiçiaca. Here his work was characterised by a common-sense approach and the ruthless demolition of some of the more nationalistic brands of medieval scholarship previously rife, and still not entirely dead, in Spain.

One thinks particularly of his pragmatic view of the Cid as bourgeois hero, and of his brilliant inaugural lecture insisting that many of the anomalies of Spanish medieval literature can be explained by seven centuries of Arab cultural presence in the peninsula: a presence which Hispanists in Spain have, until recently, consistently downgraded, if not ignored.

Walker's concern with meticulous scholarship led him to study Arabic in order to acquire first-hand knowledge of Spain's Islamic heritage. His broad knowledge of the European medieval literary tradition, particularly that of France and Portugal,

was also evident in much of his work. He co-authored Cassell's compact Spanish-English, English-Spanish Dictionary (1969), edited Spanish hagiographical texts, and wrote about a range of Spanish epic and lyric literature. His other research



specialism was 16th- and 17thcentury Portuguese literature. particularly the work of Camões the contributed to collections on Camões and wrote various articles). He was thus the perfect person to be chosen to catalogue the papers, held in Valence House Museum in Dagenham, of Sir Richard Fanshawe: man of letters and ambassador to Spain and Portugal in

the 17th century. This labour, undertaken in collaboration with the historian W.H. Liddell of Birkbeck College, occupied the last years of his life. Although he was frustrated in his attempt to complete this work in the short span of time he knew was left to him, with characteristic professionalism he succeeded in leaving it in a sufficiently advanced state for the work to be completed after his death.

Born in Huddersfield, Roger

Walker incarnated all the positive features of the Yorkshireman stereotype: down to earth, sensible, straight-talking, and shove all jovial and a lover of the good things in life. After a distinguished student track record at Manchester University (where he read French and Spanish), he was appointed to an Assistant Lectureship at Bristol University at the age of 23. Two years later in 1963 he was appointed Lec-turer in Spanish at Birkbeck College, London University, to which he devoted the rest of his working life, as Reader from 1972. Professor of Spanish Medieval Studies from 1980 and, most notably, as Vice-Master from 1988 to 1993.

To many, Walker will be rememhered primarily for his clear thinking and fair-mindedness as an administrator: qualities that made him a popular choice as first Head of the Centre for Language and Literature at Birkbeck in 1987, and a year later for the post of Vice-Master. In both posts, he secured universal respect, and his evenhanded but no-nonsense approach allowed him to implement new structures without making enemies: a rare achievement. He also served on numerous London University committees, including its Academic Council and Senate. His administrative talents were recognised on a national level through his work for the Modern Humanities Research Association, on whose committee he served continuously since 1974. He became Hispanic Editor of the Modern Language Review in 1980, serving as its General Editor from

As editor of the MHRA Style Book, the guide to authorial style and resentation most widely used in the UK, he left his mark on scholarship in all fields of the Humanities. Elected a Life Member of MHRA in 1991 he was also a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (since 1983) and of the the World Health Organisation and Royal Historical Society (since 1994), and served as President of the British branch of the Société Rencesvals (1988-91) and of the London Medieval Society (1988-92).

His major professional and personal achievement was perhaps as a member of the Spanish panel for the first Research Selectivity Exercise in 1989, chair of the Research Assessment Exercise panel for French, Spanish, Russian and European Studies in 1992, and chair of the RAE panel for Spanish in 1995. Thanks to his reputation for fairmindedness and good sense, the results of these exercises were received by his colleagues in the field of Hispanism with a notable lack of acrimony, confirming the trust and respect with which he was regard ed by the profession in an age of increasing competitiveness.

JO LABANYI

Roger Michael Walker, Hispanist: born Huddersfield, Yorkshire 25 July 1935; Assistant Lecturer, Bristol University 1961-63: Lecturer. Birkbeck College, London University 1963-72, Reader 1972-80. Professor of Spanish Medieval Studies 1980-99, Vice-Master 1988-93; married 1960 Patricia Eccles tone son, one daughter; marriage dissolved 1980); died Colchester, Essex 11 January 1999.

Winifred Morgan

at King's College Hospital, London,

then as a midwife at Sussex Mater-

nity Hospital, in Brighton. She then

returned to King's, which she always

referred to with a fierce pride. This

was not always appreciated by col-

leagues when she moved on to Scot-

At King's she became involved in

land and the north of England.

WINIFRED MORGAN was the only and when she left trained as a nurse Brinsh nurse to be awarded the Star of Ethiopia by Emperor Haile Selassie for her work in Africa. She had a distinguished nursing career in teaching hospitals in London, Glasgow and Manchester and with the Red Cross.

Born in 1914, she was determined as a child to be a nurse, although there was no nursing tradition in her family - her father, a chauffeur, set up his own taxi business. Both parents died when Winifred was 11 and her sister seven. Thereafter the sisters were brought up separately. Winifred by an aunt and uncle in London, and it may have been the disciplinarian aunt which produced in Winifred Morgan the disciplinarian attitude of the senior nurse.

As a girl Morgan worked hard towards her goal, won a scholarship to Queen Anne's School, Caversham,



'Southern' attitude

nurse education and was in charge of the preliminary training school

something then new in nurse education. In 1949 she went to Edinburgh as sister tutor at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children but left after a year "for domestic reasons". The following year she was appointed principal sister tutor at the General Hospital, Jersey, to reorganise the nursing school and establish the block system of training, another innovation in nurse education. She left to take a course in nursing administration and had a brief period in management as an assistant matron at

Guy's Hospital, in London. Her next post was a pioneering one in nursing education, as director of the experimental training course at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, introduced by the matron, E.G. Manners. It was a brave task for an outsider from England to undertake. Nurses in training were to be real students and not part of the hospital staff, although they worked on the wards. There they had clinical supervision from tutors. If they had been on night duty, they did not have to wake up by day to attend lectures. They were prepared for the state examination in two years instead of the usual three and then had a third year of practical experience before state regiatration.

The experiment was sponsored by the Scottish Health Department and the Nuffield Trust and one of the objectives was to cut down the wastage of nurses leaving during training. Of the first 75 taking course, only two dropped out. The course was evaluated by Margaret Scott Wright, who became the first professor of mursing in the UK, at Ed-

inburgh University. At the suggestion of the retiring matron of the Royal Infirmary at Manchester, Jean Wylie, who, like Morgan, had trained at King's, Morgan applied for the post and was appointed. She was matron at Manchester from 1961 to 1969. In 1967 she went to Iraq for the British Council and Manchester Royal Infirmary agreed to participate in a training scheme for Iraqi nurses. At Manchester, what was conceived to be her superior "southern" attitude was not always appreciated by the northerners, however.

After she left the infirmary, Morgan expanded her international career. She surveyed the international Committee of the Red Cross'a dispensaries in the Dhaka area in Bangladesh, as World Heath Organisation consultant (1969-74) presided at the nurses' graduation ceremony at Ludhiana Hospital in India, was invited to take up a senior appointment at the new teaching hospital in Amman, Jordan, and fra a brief period was director of the international Council of Nurses.

LAURENCE DOPSON

Winifred Florence Morgan, nurse: born London 26 December 1914; died Reigate, Surrey 5 January

المكناس الاصل

-----THE APPLE (SIM) ING

GE

HE ACID HOUSE STALL

BABE: PIG IN THE C 🍍 The later open Bake 🗱 tia untrich- midat wie the gradia (e.g. savie<mark>um of a</mark> to resent comedy is Service Consumer and the state of

ยาว การแบบการเปลี่ยวการ**าโก**

THE BOYS :: .

WWw. After serving ! The Service Springers (D) We had military a dirab se िन क्षेत्रीति समर्थे व्या**ने राजनाड** long tenchmen. The I ride in tale Drivin Under 198 - Chambergo **Print**

DOBERMANN (18) Vincent Cassel's born

and neers his way andres of Paris while the innes on balefully. in new French cine Walled carnage and that's sping nowhen Orle in Camden Tours

THE DREAM LIFE Her End ABC Suis

ENEMY OF THE ST Will Smith's fall-guy Hackman's pensions probes a political cov all manner of Big Bro Mem Camden Tour Marble Arch. Odeon End. Ritzy Cinem Chesses, Virgin Fulls

LITTLE VOICE 115 Holed up in her b perfecting strident S impersonations wh Came's sieazy impr Herman's last film, I solid effort. Little V bitty: Bul bracing bit pirotechnics, pars from Caine push it Kerl End: ABC To Canden Town, Ode Arch. Odeon Stois Phoenix Cinema, F Virgin Chelsen, Vi

THE MASK OF 2
This gaudy swan
through 19th cents
of Autonio Banda
do-gooder A lot of
action seen action serpieces. T Odeon Mezzania

Pure the Medical Control of Contr

Specification of the control of the

A SOLUTION OF

-- Sens Human

and and

Hannah Sener 6 Origina Rep

- Ted Me

2 14 E

to Assert land

THE STATE

or to the best

To Direction

- - 1. 1 miles 1 + 1884

September - -

in thed by the

N 74

· AT PAY TOR

- 11 but start

11 150 %

Service and Residence

Same of the State of the State

· Frederick

THE PARTY

7.7

1.0

11.0

.

- 11 の意味

100

1 472

0.5

1.2

i i i ja me

down of treating

THE TUESDAY REVIEW

John Pulman

the history of snooker as a player who held the world title for 11 years.

The cape titles are a control of the cape. The legendary Joe Davis, a role model for the young Pulman, won more world championships. However, no other player, including Davis's younger brother Fred, has been in possession of the game's most coveted prize for such an unbroken sequence. And in the modern era where the major prizes swap hands from tournament to tournament, let alone year to year, Pulman's achievement may never be equalled.

Unfortunately for "Pully", the statistics do not tell the full story. That is perhaps why his name doesn't immediately spring to mind when listing past champions in order of greatness. Snooker, despite its current internal wranglings and lack of major sponsorship deals, is in a far healthier state than when Pulman was in his pomp.

A runner-up to Fred Davis in 1955 and 1956, Pulman made it third time lucky when he travelled to Jersey for the 1957 world championship. However, just four players entered the event: Pulman, Kingsley Keonerley, Rex Williams, the present and much maligned chairman of the game's governing hody, and the Ulsterman Jackie Rea.

The "final" saw Pulman prevail 39 frames to 34 against Rea to hecome world champion. Just as his star was in the ascendancy, however, the sport's popularity waned to an all-time low. The championship became dormant until 1964 when revived on a challenge basis. When play resumed Pulman defeated Fred Davis 19-16.

He was to retain his litle through six more challenges over the next four years including a six-week tour of South Africa with Williams. On one occasion during the trip, annoyed by the low attendance, they flipped a coin rather than play the match.

Unlike the plethora of titles up for grabs in the modern era, Pulman's triumphs were largely confined to his world championship victories. His last successful defence came in 1968 with a 39-34 victory over the Australian "newcomer" Eddie Charlton. In 1969 the championship reverted to a knockout basis and the title holder lost to another emerging professional, Lancastrian John Spencer, in the first round.

The venue was the Wryton Stadium, Bolton, normally used for all in wrestling. Pulman had lost his grip on the championship for ever. He did make

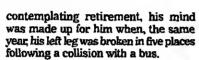
JOHN PULMAN holds a unique place in the final again in 1970, however, and eojoyed one of his finest moments of a 34-year professional career in 1977.

Against the odds, and perhaps due to his decision to stay teetotal from the turn of the year. Pulman reached the semifinals of the first Embassy-sponsored event held at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield. He led the eventual champion John Spencer 7-3 and later recovered from 15-10 down to trail just 17-16.

Spencer though secured the allimportant 34th frame and went on to beat the Canadian Cliff Thorburn in the final. However, it was testimony to his immaculate cueing action - described by Spencer as "one of the best" - that he was able to compete at an age when most sportsmen and women are well past their prime.

Pulman made two further appear ances at the Crucible and played his final professional match in 1981. Already

Pulman's big regret was his failure to score snooker's perfect break – a 147 clearance though he did manage a 146



John Pulman was born in Teignmouth in 1923 hut moved to Plymouth in 1929 when his father, Ernest, sold his confectionery business and bought a billiards club. The young Pulman initially flourished at hilliards, making a century break at the age of 12 and a half,

Soon, though, he was competent at snooker and with the family now in Exeter he honed his skills in the new club. He came to national prominence at the age of 22. His first entry into the English amateur championship resulted in a title win over one Albert Brown. Despite his future successes Pulman steadfastly described his amateur title win as "the best of my career". A hig regret was his failure to score snooker's



Pulman held the world snooker title from 1957 until 1968

perfect break - a 147 clearance - though he did manage a 146.

When he finally hung up his cue, Pulman wasn't lost to the game. It was while he was hospitalised after breaking his leg that he was offered a contract to commentate on snooker for ITV. He continued to do so up until his death. Ironically, his "rival" on BBC was "Whispering" Ted Lowe who had been Pulman's first manager when he turned professional in 1947.

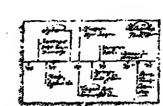
Lowe is widely regarded as the voice of snooker but Pulman was his superior according to the 1985 world champion Dennis Taylor, now a broadcaster for the BBC: "The sound engineers would often tell me what a pleasure it was to work with 'Pully' because his voice was so marvellous.

Before his ITV deal Pulman worked for the BBC and was behind the microphone at the 1980 world championship when coverage was interrupted by live action from the Iranian Embassy in London. When the broadcast resumed Pulman's opening line was: "Welcome back to the world championship. It's a case of from one Emhassy

His mellifluent tone was no doubt enriched by a fondness for a glass of whisky or three. John Pulman was a humorous raconteur and bon viveur on the circuit both during and after his playing days.

TREVOR BAXTER

John Pulman, snooker player: born Teignmouth, Devon 12 December 1923; English Amateur Champion 1946; runner-up, World Snooker Championship 1955-56, world champion 1957-68; married (three children); died Northampton 25 December 1998.



HISTORICAL NOTES

Was Josephine the key to Napoleon's power?

IN WRITING, I seek answers. as the chosen one, was des-Curiosity is my muse. But tined to be queen, then would now, after a decade of researching and writing a trilogy of novels based on the life of Josephine Bonaparte, I begin to understand that I may never know the answers to some questions.

The first of Josephine's mysteries concerned destiny. When a girl on Martinique, Josephine was told that she would become queen of France, "more than a queen." As the unmarriageable daughter of impoverished nohility, she was an unlikely candidate. However, the prediction came true.

There are many who accept that there is a destiny and that destiny can, by mysterious means, be foretold. But it is difficult to believe that there might have been a masterplan in which a girl on the island of Martinique is tagged to become empress of the French.

Was it true? Should we believe all that we read? The history of the Napoleonic era is rife with myth: Josephine enjoyed a good story and Napoleon knew the value of propaganda. In later years, historians and hiographers explained the "facts" with sometimes rather creative interpretations. Yet the evidence indicated otherwise. A number of references were made to this prediction before it ever came to pass.

If you were to accept the fact of this prediction, other questions arise. If Josephine,

not her partner become king? Of course, we answer, thinking of Bonaparte (always Bonaparte). Yet there were and each became, after aligning themselves with her, a candidate for a crown. Her first hushand, Alexandre Beauharnais, was for a brief two weeks during the Revolution considered the man who ruled France. And then there was Paul Barras, the

man who ran the fledgling republic with Josephine as his partner. (Perhaps a platonic one, hut a partner nonetheless.) And then, of course, there was Napoleon, an unemployed Corsican officer. A little over four vears after he married Josephine he took control of France. The rest, as they say, is history: he crowned himself and Josephine as

well. As empress of the French she was indeed "more than a queen." Five years later Napoleon divorced her and his downfall began. Coincidence? Was Josephine the key to Napoleon's power? Napoleon's power was indeed great and very much his own, yet most historians will acknowledge that

Josephine was a significant (and even essential) part of Napoleon's rise. Yet not only Napoleon, but other men in her life came to power after aligning themselves with ber. Was she destined to be

queen, her partners king?

It is tempting to resist this interpretation of history, but it cannot be ignored that both Josephine and Napoleon, and to a great extent the public. at the time believed it to be other men in Josephine's life, true. Napoleon claimed that Josephine was his lucky star. Many soldiers held that Josephine was the key to Napoleon's extraordinary good luck on the battlefield. After Napoleon divorced her, he was plagued hy had luck: people said that it was because Josephine was no

longer with him. But the question remains: why Josephine? She was a fairly simple woman of great heart. Although intelligent (ouite), she was not a great intellect. Her virtues were simple ones; she was an exceptional mother, a good friend, a caring employer, a loving wife. She knew how to be a good hostess. She had a weakness for hats. But somehow, too, she knew how to be an empress. How does one go about such a thing? There are no "how to" books on the subject, not many classes one can take. Yet she stepped into the role easily and with tremendous grace

and humanity. It was, it was said, as if she had been born to the role: and the truth was, she believed it. She believed it was her destiny.

Sandra Gulland is the author of The Many Lives and Secret Sorrows of Josephine B' (Review, £9.99)

Michaela Geiger

MICHAELA GEIGER reached the high point of her career when she served Parliament (Bundestag) 1997-98.

She had been put forward twice before but had been beaten by her Christian Social Union (CSU) colleague Hans "Jonny" Klein. She was Chairman of the CSU's working party on foreign policy 1987-91. Appointed State Secretary (junior minister) for Economic Co-operation in 1991, she remained in that post until 1993. Remarkably, she served at the same level in the Ministry of Defence 1993-97.

Geiger's good looks and charm sometimes led people to underestimate her intelligence and think she had got her promotion because of the CSU's "tokenism" towards women. This ignored the courage and determination with which she pursued her ambitions.

ic local government politician. Her Upper Bavaria organisation. hirthplace, the village of Oberammergau, is the deeply conservative home of the internationally famous Passion Play and is renowned for its woodcarvers. In the predominantly Catholic Bayaria, her family were Evangelical Christians. Michaela Rall went to school in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, and after gaining her university matriculation (Abitur), in 1963, went for technical train-

ing rather than entering university. She qualified as a television screen technician in Nuremberg in 1964 and worked at that trade until her marriage in 1967, when she became Michaela Geiger. She joined the CSU in Garmisch-Partenkirchen in 1971, being elected to the local executive in 1975. In the following years her dedication led to

Geiger's chance to be a player on the national stage came after she had caught the eye of the CSU leader Franz Josef Strauss. In 1980, after losing the federal election as the Christian Democrats' candidate for the Chancellorship, Strauss decided not to take his seat in the Bundestag. Geiger took his place with his blessing. She was re-elected in 1983, 1987, 1990 and 1994. In 1994 she was returned with the third highest percentage vote (62 per cent) of any CSU candidate. She also received the highest percentage gained by any woman of any party in Bavaria.

In 1998 the Christian Social Union of Bavaria held its losses to 3.5 per cent. the lowest percentage loss for the Christian Democrats in any region.

Born Michaela Rall in Bayaria, she various CSU posts including that of Geiger retained her seat, taking 58 per was the daughter of a Free Democrat- Deputy Chairperson of the party's cent of the vote. She was one of only ed and one of the six women out of 47 in the CSU parliamentary party.

She lost her place as Vice-President of the Bundestag at the start of the 1998 session after the CDU/CSU election defeat. Even though she was terminally ill with cancer, Geiger continued her parliamentary work. She remained as Deputy Chair of the Bundestag's foreign affairs committee until the last session before Christmas.

DAVID CHILDS

Michaela Gertrud Rall (Michaela Geiger), politician: born Oberammergau, Germany 29 September 1943: married 1967 (one son; marriage dissolved); died Munich 30 December 1998.

Victoria and Albert

Route". 11.30am.

Museum: Caroline Rimell

"English Cabinets", 2pm.

British Museum: Helen

Glaister, 'The Chinese Silk

National Portrait Gallery:

Scandals (ix): The Prince of

Wales and the Tranby Croft

London W1: Robert Wenley.

Renaissance Bronzes in the

Justin Nolan, "Plots and

Scandal, 1891", 1.10pm.

The Wallace Collection.

Wallace Collection", 1pm.

Gresham College at the

City Temple, London EC1:

Professor Susan Greenfield.

"Neuroscience and Society:

some moral issues". 1pm.

Refusal to pay was repudiatory breach

A DELIBERATE failure by an employer to pay agreed remuneration to an employee would normally be regarded as a repudiatory breach of

the contract of employment. The Court of Appeal allowed the defendants' appeals against an injunction restraining them International v

from canvassing or soliciting Callaghan and others anyone to transact on behalf of any competitor of the plaintiff. The defendants were members of a team of inter-dealer brokers employed by the plain-

tiff on its Belgian securities desk. On 8 January 1997 the defendants purported to resign from their employment by plaintiff was in breach of a conhanding in a joint written notice. They intended to start work with Liberty EurAsia Ltd. a major competitor of the plaintiff. Allegations of "poaching"

teams of brokers had resulted in a mutual agreement which had expired on 31 December 1996 between the plaintiff and Liberty to end the practice. When the defendants left to join Liberty, the plaintiff's entire German desk left simultaneously with the same purpose. Rose) for the plaintiffs.

The plaintiff applied for an injunction to restrain the defendants, until after 1 May 1997, from canvassing or soliciting anyone to transact on behalf of any competitor of the plaintiff.

The defendants claimed that their contracts of employment had been hreached by the plaintiff in that the plaintiff had wrongly failed or refused to comply with agreed arrangements in relation to the defendants' salary packages, in connection with, inter alia, assurances given to them about tax liabilities. The judge, in granting the in-

junction, held that although the

TUESDAY Law Report 26 JANUARY 1999

Cantor Fitzgerald

Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Judge and Lord Justice Tuckey) 21 January 1999

tractually enforceable obligation, nevertheless the failure to pay the sums in question did not amount to "a significant breach going to the root of the contract of employment". He found that the defendants, in purporting to terminate their contracts of employment, were themselves in repudiatory breach. The defendants appealed. Eldred Tabachnik QC and Jone Tracy Forsier (McGrath & Co) for the defendants; Alistair McGregor QC and Nigel Porter (Norton

Lord Justice Judge said that the question whether nonpayment of agreed wages, or interference hy an employer with a salary package, was or was not fundamental to the continued existence of a contract of employment depended on the critical distinction to be drawn between an employer's failure to pay or delay in paying agreed remuneration, and his deliberate failure to do so.

Where the failure or delay constituted a breach of contract, that might represent no

more than a temporary fault in the employer's technology, an accounting error or a simple mistake, or illness, accident, or unexpected events, and it would be open to the court to conclude that the breach did not go to the root of the contract.

Where, however, an employer unilaterally reduced his employee's pay or diminished the value of his salary package. the entire foundation of the contract of employment was undermined. An emphatic denial by the employer of his obligation to pay the agreed salary or wage, or a determined resolution not to comply with his contractual obligations in relation to pay and remuneration would, therefore, normally be regarded as repudiatory.

Furthermore, it was doubtful whether de minimis had any relevance: if the amount at stake was very small and the circumstances justifying a minimal reduction were explained to the employee, the likelihood was that he would accept a mutual variation of the original contract. However, an apparently slight change imposed on a reluctant employee by economic pressure exercised by the employer should not be confused with a consensual variation.

In the present case the sums at stake, although not great in the context of the overall package, were not trivial. The refusal to pay them was deliberate and determined, motivated by a desire improperly to pressurise the defendants into harder work The decision wholly undermined the contract of employment and, accordingly, constituted a repudiatory breach.

KATE O'HANLON Barrister

MARRIAGES & DEATHS

BIRTHS,

DEATHS

HEIGHO: Maureen, née Lambert. Widow of W.B. Heigho MBE, died in Ealing on 29 November 1998, aged 84. The funeral took place at Ruislip on 7 January.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

HUTCHESON: A celebration of Stella Hutcheson's life will be held at 6.30pm on Thursday 18 February at Friends House, Euston Road (opposite Euston Station).

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS are charged at £6.50

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am.

BIRTHDAYS

Mr Ronald Allison, journal-

ist and broadcaster, 67;

Admiral Sir Desmond Cassidi, former Commanderin-Chief, Naval Home Command, 74; Mr Timothy Clifford, director, National Galleries of Scotland, 53; Mr Martin Dunn, editor-in-chief. the New York Daily News. 44; Mr Jules Feiffer, playwright and cartoonist, 70; Mr cricketer, 45; The Right Simon Langdale, former Headmaster, Shrewsbury School, 62; Miss Joan

Christopher Hampton, playwright, 53; Mr Kim Hnghes, Rev David Jenkins, former Bishop of Durham, 74; Miss Eartha Kitt, singer, 71; Mr Leslie, actress, 74; Mr Akio Morita, founder, Sony Corporation, 78; Mr Paul Newman, actor and director, 74: Dr Paul Nurse, directorgeneral, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, 50; Miss Veronica Owen, former Headmistress, Malvern Girls' College, 74; Mr Christopher Price, Principal Emeritus, Leeds Metropolitan University, 67; Mr Anthony Solomons, chair-

man, Singer and Friedlander,

69; Sir Charles Tidbury, former chairman, Whithread and Co, 73; Mr Nigel Walmsley, chairman, Cariton UK Television, 57.

ANNIVERSARIES

GAZETTE

Births: Ugo (Niccolo) Foscolo, poet, 1778; Sir Thomas Noon Talfourd, judge, poet and editor, 1795; Douglas MacArthur, general, 1880: Stéphane Grappelli, violinist and jazz musician, 1908; Jacqueline du Pré, cellist, 1945. Deaths: Edward Jenner

physician, discoverer of vaccination, 1823; Jean-Louis-Andre-Theodore Géricault, painter, 1824; Gerard de Nerval (Gérard Labrupie), poet and writer, 1855; Léon-Michel Gambetta, lawyer and statesman, 1882; William Marsden, surgeon and hospital founder, 1867; Charles George Gordon, general, killed at Khartoum 1885; Edward G. Robinson, actor, 1973.

On this day: Brazil was discovered by Vicente Yanes Pinzon, 1500; Sydney Australia, was founded by Governor Arthur Phillip, 1788; Napoleon Bonaparte became president of the Italian Republic, formerly the Cisalpine republic, 1802;

Hong Kong became a British sovereign territory, 1841; the Rugby Union was founded, 1871; the Cullinan Diamond was found by Captain Wells near Pretoria, South Africa, 1905; the first official Boy Scout troop - the First Glasgow - was formed, 1908; during the Spanish Civil War, Barcelona fell to Franco's army, 1939; India became a republic within the Common-

Today is Australia Day, Republic Day India and the Feast Day of St Alberic, St Conan of Man, St Eystein, St Margaret of Hungary, St Paula, St Thordgith or Theorigitha of Barking, St Timothy and St Titus.

wealth, 1950.

LECTURES

National Gallery: Humphrey Wine, "New Appearances (iv): Poussin Landscape with a Calm",

DINNERS Inter-Parliamentary Union - British Group

Mr David Marshall MP Chairman of the British Group, Inter-Parliamentary Union, hosted a dinner yesterday evening on board RS Hispaniola, London WC2, in honour of a Parliamentary Delegation from the Slovak Republic. Mr Jozef Migas, Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic, led the delegation.

FRANK KERMODE, in the London Review of Books, has caught up with Bech at Bay by John Updike, whom he calls "alive, fertile and motile". One might think this a hangover from Kermode's structuralist phase, but it is a zoological term - able to move: presumably that is Kermode'a

WORDS **CHRISTOPHER**

HAWTREE motile, adj.

chological one - somebody who reacts to motor imagery rather than anditory or visual. Updike is sense rather than the psy- the supreme chronicler of

sight and sound, a dextrous vocabulary to hand. Kermode surmises that this is the last of Bech, "the funhouse distortion of his inventor", but, no! the latest issue of the New Yorker has

a new story with such phrases as "her livid nipples" and "toward dawn there was a prolonged bright ruckus that must have been Buffalo".

Post Gazette announcements to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, telephone 0171-293 2012 (24-hour answering machine 0171-293 2011) or fax to 0171-293 2010. Please give a daytime telephone number.

Rustic enemy No 1

Oliver Walston is a fat-cat farmer with a huge subsidy and he doesn't care who knows it. He also thinks farmers are a bunch of whingers. No wonder they hate him. By Ann Treneman

liver Walston is in love with the sound know this because he tells me so, but I could have figured it out for myself. He talks non-stop. Actually, that's not true. He stops to eat and to laugh. He also slows down a hit when he hears the sound of a soundbite that he likes. "People love Fat-Cat Farmer Yes. Fat-Cat Farmer has really caught on. you know," he crows as we bounce along in his four-wheel drive. I did not even know that Mercedes made fourwheel drives, hut here we are in one. The seats are leather but it is the view that is really impressive: miles and miles of Cambridgeshire farmland that belong to Mr Fat Cat.

"Surely you are now a Famous Fat-Cat Farmer," I say. This is not just flattery. He has just presented Against the Grain on BBC2 and has made something of a stir by speaking frankly about his annual aubsidy cheque. This may sound boring but when you hear the figure £180,000, it suddenly gets interesting. Mr Walston thinks it is an outrage that you and I are subsidising the likes of him, and he believes that every farmer should tell us the size of his subsidy. He wants them to be loud and proud about it. This makes him a farming heretic or, as he puts it, a "weird nut". He seems to like this and I'm not surprised when he rejects the idea of being famous. "No, not famous. Infamous!

He is proving to be a very able hate figure. The letters page of Farmer's Weekly is positively seething at the moment. "Walston has never had to struggle", says one headline. "Pompous and selfish Oliver", says another. They call him smug and a hraggart. He gets anonymous telephone calls, some of them nasty. Last week he was told by a Somerset farmer that it is said that he should be put up against a fence and shot. "I hope that was a joke," he says.

I suspect that it was not entirely said in jest because Mr Walston has made many farmers extremely angry. I have gone to his farm in the village of Thriplow to talk to him about this. In his father's day, there were 80 workers employed on the farm. Now there are four. Mr Walston grows wheat, barley, sugar beet, oil seed rape, peas, beans and another crop called "set-aside". He lives in a lovely conlooks much younger. He has made lunch and ohviously knows his way around the kitchen. "I'm married to an American!" he says. I'm not sure what this means. We chat about the phrase "new man". I say that my test is who cleans the toilet. He admits that he doesn't. But neither does his wife. Right. He brings out the Beaujolais. He says he has a "small house" in France. I don't believe him: I'm sure it is a large house hut it seems surly



looks at me, "But it's true! Eton, Cambridge, Princeton. Wouldn't you call that being born with a silver spoon in every orifice? What the hell else can I say?! But when people say

So this is his story, "My dad inherited 2,000 acres in South Cambridgeshire from his mum and dad and

He says that he owes firm on this farm. "So I consider that a lot of money. And most people would too. It pisses me off when people say that I don't know about the bottom line. I that I don't have to watch the hottom have to make a pretty damn good earning just to pay back the mortgage." He says that this amounts to £60 an acre and notes that I don't have to be a genius to figure out that the mortgage

Walston says buying the farm was like 12 orgasms rolled into one. This will surprise many people. Not because of the orgasms, but because most people assume he inherited it. Not true

the land to us and I rented it from my brothers and sisters. They then sold it to the highest hidder which turned out to be the Kent County Council Pension Fund. So then I was a tenant farmer for the Kent County Council Pension Fund. And about three years ago I managed to huy it back. I horrowed a huge amount of money. And that is where I am today. So when a farmer says to you - bloody Oliver Walston, he's so rich' - the answer is that a silver spoon in every orifice". He he might look that way but it ain't true."

could not survive without his subsidy cheque, but thinks five years would be enough time to wean himself off it. He suspects it's going to happen anyway. and that Nick Brown, the Agriculture Secretary, agrees.

If this is the case, he could just he quiet and it would happen anyway. Does he not care what people think? "Not really. I'm well aware that farmers think I'm a traitor"

It doesn't get any nicer. He says that farmers have cried wolf so many

times that no one believes them when things really are tough (as they are now). He says that the way that the green pound works meant that Norman Lamont's Black Wednesday was a godsend for farmers. "We called it Golden Wednesday!" But no one said so in public. In fact, no one says much in public about subsidies or good times or Golden Wednesdays, "If farmers had been more honest, more straightforward, more open with the public in the past, the public would be

more sympathetic with them today." Mr Walston does not seem to suffer from this problem. When he has a good harvest, he does more than talk about it. He commissions an engraved silver goblet. He gets them out of the cupboard. In 1982 it was for sugar beet. in 1983 for wheat, in 1991 for peas and -in 1993 - for "set-aside". This last one aside produced absolutely nothing.

The mugs are examples of beautiful workmanship with engraved insects, snails, rabbits and mice peeking out where you least expect. I say so and Mr Walston blasts me with a laugh. "I can see the piece already. I wasn't exactly born yesterday. Surrounded by unlimited silver tankards, he sat there telling farmers to get into the real world." Surely even he would have to admit that there is some

THE JOYS OF MODERN LIFE

30. WOMEN'S WEEKLIES BY HESTER LACEY



DINNER LADY By Day, Sinner Lady By Night!
Marry Me... Or Die! The
Eyes of a Killer! No Sex Because He Hates My Breasts! And (my personal favourite) A Wheelie Bin Saved My Life! These are all headlines from a blissful Nineties publishing phenomenon: the cheap 'n' cheerful weekly mag that mainly relies on readers' true experiences. The likes of That's Life! Take A Break and Chat are all racing reads than the old stalwarts such as Woman; they pay their readers to reveal all and it is astounding just what people are prepared to admit to for a fee of a few hundred quid

All human life is there: feisty mums and hrave kiddles battling against the odds, heroic grannies, villainous cheats, twofaced friends and faithless spouses, hirth, love, sex and death. Trite and banal, of course, but that's their great strength.

Best of all, every single story has to be illustrated with genuine photos of the people involved, and those grainy, badly ocused snapshots of the pale, the spotty, the overweight, the weirdly dressed, the strangely coiffed, in short the normal, speak more poignantly than any glossy posed-by-models shot can ever do; boy, are these people real. To this already heady

mix, the editors add liberal amounts of extra sex and gore and other such general good humour. Know a good rude joke? Send it to That's Life! which pays £15 for every printed. Another publication has a column called "My Operation". bearing a helpful label that warns the squeamish on no account to read it when there is a particularly gruesome procedure being described. Another has a regular feature in which life-saving dogs and comforting cats write in to

describe how they have kept hope and love alive in their human owners. And these magazines

are the home of one of the most fantastical notions ever dreamt up by a fevered editorial hrain in search of an economical space-filler: the readers' thrifty tips column. The versions that have since appeared in some newspapers and glossier mags are just pale and feeble imitations. Each issue carries a perfunctory nod towards cookery and interiors articles, but these are easily skipped.

Printed on flimsy paper, these mags are ideal for folding into a handbag to while away a boring journey. Of course, it's not quite the same as being seen reading The Economist or Prospect, hut I've caught plenty of quite respectable-looking fellow commuters reading over my shoulder, I mean, who could possibly resist such nuggets as My Hubby Ran Off With My Horsy Best Friend But He's No Stallion, or Watching My Husband Make Love To My Neighbour Turns Me On?

This kind of stuff can be purchased for a very reasonable 62p a week hardly pricey even when you become addicted and have to get all of them 52 times a year (yes, it happens). In most women's magazines the problem page is one of the most exciting; in this bunch the. problem pages pale beside, the real-life stories, which would be pretty refreshing at any price.

(Incidentally, in case the life-saving wheelie bin: two young mums were snoozing unsuspectingly as one of their children played with matches and set the house on fire. But they were all saved when they managed to scramble out of a first-floor window, using a handy rubbish receptacle to facilitate their escape.)

Offver Walston on his Cambridgeshire farm: 'I might look rich but it ain't true. I have to watch the bottom line'

40 Weekends in New York to be won with

Especially since he has so many

points to press on with. He talks with

great passion about farming, but there

is much of a personal nature that he

does not mention. He talks about his

father, for instance, but does not say

that he was the wealthy socialist life

peer, Lord Walston. He says that he

was known as "the son of ..." for so long

that it is a relief not to hear It these

days. His mother, Catherine, is also

infamous in that she had a 15-year

affair with Graham Greene. He spent

18 months researching a book about

her hut then gave it up at the request

of a family member. His office reveals

him to have many interests: David

Hockney and touring the Arctic on an

None of these compares to farming

however. He says that owning land is

the second most powerful drive in the

the other He says buying the farm was

like 12 orgasms rolled into one. This

will surprise many people, not because

of the orgasms hut because most

people assume that Oliver Walston

inherited his land. Not true. He tells

me a story about this - he loves to tell

stories - hut first I say that he is his

own worst enemy. Perhaps the reason

people think he is a fat-cat farmer who

has never had to struggle is that he

says things such as "I was born with

ice-breaker, to name two.

Talk Radio and The Independent are flying 40 pairs of winners to New York for a weekend in March in our 'Talk to New York' Competition. Throughout February there are 2 New York Weekends to be won every weekday.

Talk Radio, on 1053 and 1089am/medium wave, is the only national commercial talk station. Talk Radio gives you the chance to have your say on the issues that matter. You can talk direct to celebrities and news makers, from Foreign Secretary Robin Cook to actor and comedian Robbie Coltrane, from Formula One driver David Coulthard to boxing impressario Don King.

How to Play 'Talk to New York'

Every day from next Monday we're printing a freah map, in.The Independent Review section, showing 2 different locations in Manhattan.

Tune to Talk Radio and listan for tha Avenue and Street No.s for ona of that day's locations, identify it on the map and you could be a winner.

How to find Talk Radio

1053 and 1089am across the UK and in the following areas: 1107 am: Boston (Lincs), Gatwick, Liverpool, Lydd (Kent), Paignton (Oevon), Southampton 1071 am: Newcastle, Nottingham

When to listen to Talk Radio

For your chance to win a trip for two to New York listan to Talk Radio at these times evary

8.20am The Big Boys' Breakfast with Banks & Ferrari

6.20pm Sportszone





The house is haunted but we're not scared – honest

There's a horrible stain on the floor - and it's spreading. But scarier still: who wrote 'kill' on the cellar wall? By Cayte Williams

grey-brick house in Fallowfield is rambling. dead creepy and gradually falling apart. There's a Dennis Nilsenstyle cellar and the front garden shields all kinds of nameless menaces behind its high hedge and brick walls. Rachel, who shares the top floor with Dani, has discovered an eerie stain on her kitchen

THE STUDENTS' huge

floor. Or. rather, what used to be her kitchen floor. You may remember that Rachel had the bright idea of inviting the local environmental health officer to the house because the landlord was dragging his heels over some major repairs. No one else was particularly

bothered, but to Rachel it was the principle of the thing. Unfortunately, her plans backfired horribly when the officer declared her kitchen a health-hazard (there was no fire escape) and

promptly arranged for it to be removed. All that's left now is a few marooned food cupboards above a sea of rubbish, dirty plates and

THIS STUDENT



SPRING TERM. WEEK 3 AT THE **MANCHESTER** STUDENT HOUSE

beer cans. Weaving between the debris is the said stain. "It's greasy, and it keeps growing. says a hemused Rachel. pointing to it fearfully with her toe. She hasn't touched, sniffed or investigated any further. "I don't have a clue what

Dani and Rachel are spending less and less time in the house. While everyone else is happy to live in communal squalor, they have tried to make the best of their little pied-à-terre. And

where did it get them? Squalid little quarters with all the atmosphere of the Bates Motel.

It's common knowledge with the rest of the house that they intend to move out, but Rachel is being coy. "I'd rather not say," she says. The relationship between Rachel and Dani and the boys has cooled down considerably, and any queries about the girls are met with "we never see them" or "we just say hello" and a shrug.

Their falling out is hardly surprising. If Dani and Rachel move out, what is there left to rent? A couple of rooms leading out to a gutted kitchen. This is not the first proportion.

time something inexplicable has happened in the students' gloomy halls. Last year, after watching The Exorcist, Leona went down into the cellar to re-light the boiler, saw "Kill" written in red on the wall, and was so spooked she couldn't sleep. Ian has his own

chilling story. "The guy

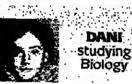
who comes here to do

the maintenance says that a man who once lived here went mad and

explains, "and now he haunts this house. When I first moved in here on my own, I used to hear knocking and rattling noises coming from upstairs and I knew no one else lived here. But I'm not scared, I don't think anything's going to harm me. Rachel is obviously

not happy about living in a haunted house, and even Tasha is spooked. "Everyone's scared to go into that cellar," she says with a nervous laugh, "hut I genuinely believe it was one of lan's mates who wrote 'Kill' on the wall." The rest of the boys think the whole thing has got out of

Leona and Tash, however, are making a stand against the broken hoiler. Rather than buying little heaters for their rooms, they are planning to hold out against the cold until it's fixed. "It's the principal of the thing," they say. Or is it just that they are simply too scared to go into the cellar?





studying French.

ROSIE



DAVID studying Management



LEONA: was studying



TASH Studying Management



ALISTAIR studying Management



RACHAEL studying Art History



studying Geography



studying

Her dancers

Pina Bause ical status the year. W joins the cu formance, it hardly seems it is her and not a hologra a gaunt, baggy-trousered i overworked creater of pa ages who smiles a sphiar locks arms with her inter Tanziheater Wupperta

family, her nomadic tribe and women who dance, sp and play games. They pestages covered in grass, or mud. They are so devotet they will throw themselves walls, wear nappies and sm faces with lipstick - and the the men. They are multima individually flavoured as people, the opposite of flav let clones. They act with a tered childlike directnes are you and me, with our c experiences, our adult ho fears, our joys and miseric

Like us, they are all a though when the company 25 years ago they more or longed to the same ger Some early members have hut rush on stage when Pi ons them back for a re-Malou Airaudo did for the Gluck inhigenia in Touri 1996 Edinburgh Festiva continue in the company, hulky Jan Minarik who spe in carrying and cross-0 and Dominique Mercy a hlono Frenchman, edgin still dancing flat-out solos

The performances of Vi week will be the compan London season since 1982. needs them more than th London Wherever they they are sold out. Ticketh peradoes stand on pavente he June clamminess of P December snow of Berlinscrawled notices. Fone please". A reluctant inter Bausch manages very well PRs and journalists. Ev you want to know about, says, you can see in her wh occasionally she caves in c her dancers to cave in, es this time, to please an edgy

Wells oublicity machine. Dominique Mercy transcharming and informative how it is that Bausch's per-- trained dancers who do hallet class - don't have

verbal delivery of non-acto He explains: "It's because of the material comes ir dancers. What you see pieces, in these small scen the result of questions whi has asked us.

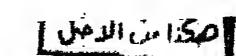
Bausch uses these ques cues to elicit improvis "And each dancer responds sonal way in keeping with experiences and imaginat out of this come many Bausch's trademark comp the enchanting visual joke as the makeshift swimming last year's Mesurea F plastic sheet held by two n filled with buckets of water rerunning of intense me until they become heart-hr such as the waif in Tonzol (1992), who repeatedly herself out of the snow, on

MOGWAI ASTORIA

JANUARY IS the awards sea in the music husiness, and the past few years the NME countered that orgy of selfgratulation, the Brits, with it poste, the Brats. This focuse younger talent, accompa by a week of concerts. But year's seen the series rena the NME Premier Shows, the beer company respons for sponsorship.

The musical policy has t somewhat less adventur too, virtually all the headli so far already having had been quite capable of, con tional pop success - excep Sunday evening's attrac Glasgow'a Mogwai, four to ty-somethings who wield tars and eschew vocals, yes play to a full house.

With their second all Diue in March, this show vides a chance to début material to a loyal audie The basic Mogwai formu simple - one guitar start dahhling with a mildly dis dant riff; the other instrum join in one by one; there sudden dramatic take off could occur at apparently



Hopelessly devoted to you

Her dancers are old hands but the inspiration of Pina Bausch remains as fresh as ever. By Nadine Meisner

lusive, reclusive: Pina Bausch's mythical status grows by the year. When she joins the curtain-call at the end of a performance, it hardly seems possible It is her and not a hologram. She is a gaunt, baggy-trousered figure, an overworked creator of potent images who smiles a sphinx smile and locks arms with her interpreters.

They have

or or or almain

... c. o. There

visit in the magazines

ne of the

ं चार्चाता के स्वीत के

Car Fale Hote

the ofference gloring

:5.15 .07.3 Each

--- = perfunction

olders and

2004Q

inclusion they

the ideal in

- ೧೯೯

 $+ 545 \, \mathrm{diag}_{10}$

. 12-15 Jugg

with the being

WP47

 $\dots \cup \mathbb{A}_{n+1} \neq \mathsf{mary}_{(i)}$

- + 16-Em

Table 1

: Seug

ann Francis

1777 **(17**71

11.1

Δ.

100

DAN

ROSE 2.5 Te

DAVID

LEONA

TASH

ALISTAIR

RACHAEL

200

their tome

----adem

5 vd C-

Tanztheater Wuppertal are her family, her nomadic tribe, 30 men and women who dance, speak, sing and play games. They perform on stages covered in grass, or snow, or mud. They are so devoted to Pina they will throw themselves against walls, wear nappies and smear their faces with lipstick - and that's just the men. They are multinational, as individually flavoured as ordinary people, the opposite of flawless ballet clones. They act with an uncluttered, childlike directness. They are you and me, with our childhood experiences, our adult hopes and fears, our joys and miseries.

Like us, they are all ages - although when the company started 25 years ago they more or less belonged to the same generation. Some early members have retired hut rush on stage when Pina beckons them back for a revival, as Malou Airaudo did for the Bausch-Gluck lphigenia in Tauris at the 1996 Edinburgh Festival. Some continue in the company, such as hulky Jan Minarik who specialises in carrying and cross-dressing, and Dominique Mercy, a sinewy blond Frenchman, edging 50 but still dancing flat-out solos

The performances of Viktor this week will be the company's first London season since 1982. London needs them more than they need London. Wherever they appear, they are sold out. Ticketless desperadoes stand on pavements - in

the June clamminess of Paris, the December snow of Berlin - holding scrawled notices, "one ticket please". A reluctant interviewee, Bausch manages very well without PRs and journalists. Everything you want to know about her. she says, you can see in her work. But occasionally she caves in, or allows her dancers to cave in, especially this time, to please an edgy Sadler's Wells publicity machine.

Dominique Mercy turns out to be tilling them into theatre. She sifts, charming and informative. I ask edits, collates and glues together. - trained dancers who do a daily ballet class - don't have the stiff verbal delivery of non-actors.

He explains: "It's because much of the material comes from the form of exhibitionism. It is not the dancers. What you see in the pieces, in these small scenes, are the result of questions which Pina has asked us."

Bausch uses these questions or cues to elicit improvisations. "And each dancer responds in a personal way, in keeping with their experiences and imagination." So out of this come many of the Bausch's trademark components: the enchanting visual jokes, such as the makeshift swimming pool in last year's Masurca Fogo, a plastic sheet held by two men and filled with buckets of water; or the rerunning of intense moments until they become heart-breaking, such as the waif in Tunzobend 11 (1992), who repeatedly drags herself out of the snow, only to be grapher, Antony Tudor.



If the pieces have the multiplicity of life, it's because they come from just that: from multiple points of view with Bausch as a funnel disus," says Mercy, who in Nelken a post she still holds. (1982) plunges his face into a pile of raw sliced onions. "I know that

purpose of her work." He first met Bausch in 1971. "I was immediately dazzled and touched by her person and her choreography," he says. Others recognised her genius early on and Bausch did not struggle through wilderness years. Born 58 years ago, in Solingen, in the Ruhr, she enrolled as a dance student in the Folkwang School in nearby Essen. The distinguished choreographer Kurt Jooss was in charge of the dance department and Bausch learnt classical ballet, modern dance and choreography. At 19 she won a scholarship to New York, where she went to the Juilliard School of Music and worked

with another exceptional choreo-

she will not exploit us simply as a

Jooss with the Folkwangtanzstudio. the school's graduate performing group which he was restarting. She created her first piece for them in 1968, remembered as "very abstract, very dancerly," and soon



from another neighbouring town, Wuppertal, to form a choreographer-led company at their opera house and she started, with Mercy Jan Minarik and Malou Airaudo among her dancers. The opera house's subscribers, accustomed to conventional ballet, took time to adjust. Her launch piece, Fritz (1974), was already dance theatre, though it had no text. "It was about the fan-

tasies of a boy," Mercy remembers. "And there was a parade of strange guests: a bearded woman, twins, a sick man in a nightgown - that was me." The house was only half-full to start with. "But then people started leaving, slamming the

Her danced versions of Gluck's

There is a trust between Pina and us. I know that she will not exploit us simply as a form of exhibitionism'

Iphigenia in Touris (1974) and Orpheus and Eurydice (1975) scored an immediate success, however, as did her monumental Rite of Spring (1975). After Cafe Müller (1978) she always included words; from Bluebeard (1977) onwards she used improvisation as her creative tool and her work acquired its prismatic, episodic structure.

Detractors claim that this has ossified into formula; yet to me

there are clear shifts of theme and emphasis. For example, a Fascist oppression runs through the red carnations of Nelken, which Jan Minarik closes by declaring: "I became a dancer because I did not want to be a soldier." Whereas Danzon (1995) seems to be abou ageing and the sadness of this, especially for dancers. It also marks Bausch's performing comeback, in a wrenchingly elegiac solo of arm gestures that resem-

ble a farewell. So what about Viktor, premièred 1986? It exemplifies Bausch's desire to preserve the old as well as create the new. It is one of her vast, broad-canvased spectacles, like 1980, which she showed on her last London visit. Viktor was also her first co-production with funding from a foreign city - Rome, in this case - an arrangement she has often repeated since.

"When we do a co-production," says Mercy, "we usually arrive three weeks early in the city to gather sensations and generally open our antennae." These impressions colour the studio improvisations, but the result is an evocation instead of a literal depiction. "Victor is not about morrow to Sat (0171-863 8000)

past THEATRE BLITHE SPIRIT SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE "IT IS fairly natural," wrote Noel Coward, "that my writing should be

A ghost

of Noël

and legend get in the way. Some day, I suspect, when Jesus has definitely got me for a sunbeam, my works . may be adequately assessed." What be did not realise was that by then, 50 years of comic acting tradition would have intervened to cloud the crisp clarity of his work. Gareth Armstrong's production of Blithe Spirit is a mishmash of styles, from the heightened outrage of Ayckbourn to the cartoon

appreciated casually, because my

personality, performances, music

caricature of 'Allo, 'Allo. There is still a masterpiece underneath, but attempts to tart it up serve only to detract - as if someone has pehhledashed Roven Cathedral. The fault lies primarily in an apparent lack of faith. There seems to be an overwhelming devotion to getting the laugh from the portrayal - the funny walk or the comic grimace - not the line. Many of the cast stretch themselves to drag a giggle where no giggle should be dragged, all too often at the expense

throwaways simply thrown away. The greatest harm is done by Fenella Fielding's Madame Arcati. Her drawling eccentricity and grinding comic "business" do the script no favours at all, ruining the pacing and rhythm of Coward's wit.

of Coward's expertly crafted writing.

with - paradoxically - many comic

But the production is saved hy Celia Nelson's Ruth. In a play about reincarnation, it is spooky to see an actress who is such a complete embodiment of a young Glenda Jackson. She plays the aggrieved second wife, displaced by her predecessor's ghost, with scalpe! precision - and she justifiably garners most of the laughs. As her deceased rival, Mairéad Carty makes an excellent Puck. However, when she forgets this she becomes a fine, petulant Elvira.

Ultimate responsibility must be laid at the door of the director. Gareth Armstrong seems to bave devoted too much time to blocking the characters in a whiriwind of moves so convoluted as to induce dizziness, and too little time to ensuring that the cast grasped the art of Cowardian comedy, a skill as specific as commedia dell'arte or Noh theatre.

You bave to strip away a lot of the staging to get to it, hut Coward's script still shines through, the lines and laughs as pure and entertaining as they were when he wrote it - in less than a week -58 years ago.

The production amuses, hut despite the contemporary "improvements", not because of them. We can still agree with Coward's modest assessment, "with the maximum of self-satisfaction. that those six days in Portmeirion in May 1941 were not wasted". It will take a different production, however, before Blithe Spirit's true qualities are once again fully displayed. TOBY O'CONNOR MORSE

Booking to 13 Feb (01722 320333)

Lyrics. Who needs them?

POP MOGWA **ASTORIA** LONDON

JANUARY IS the awards season in the music business, and for the past few years the NME has countered that orgy of self-congratulation, the Brits, with its riposte, the Brats. This focuses on younger talent, accompanied by a week of concerts. But this year's seen the series renamed the NME Premier Shows, after the beer company responsible for sponsorship. The musical policy has been

somewhat less adventurous too, virtually all the headliners so far already baving had, or been quite capable of, conventional pop success - except for Sunday evening'a attraction, Glasgow's Mogwai, four twenty-somethings who wield guitars and eschew vocals, yet still play to a full house. With their second album

due in March, this ahow provides a chance to début new material to a loyal audience. The basic Mogwai formula is simple - one guitar starts off dabbling with a mildly discordant riff, the other instruments join in one by one; there's a sudden dramatic take-off that could occur at apparently any



In the hands of less skilful

practitioners of what some

label "post rock", this style

has already become generic be-

fore the wider world has even

woken up to it, but Mogwai

handle it skilfully, never sound-

ing like a mere rock band that's

neglected to pen any lyrics.

point; then it all drifts away again, reaffirming itself occa-sionally in another rush of power. It may bear a snappy title such as the night's almost ambient opener "May Nothing But Happiness Come Through Your Door", or the extraordinarily brutal "Like Herod".

patchouli oil in all this, they're probably right. After all, this is a band who hasically do little more than go from quiet to loud and back again, but they certainly aren't facile in intent or execution. The crowd's response is emphatic. Mogwai on Top of the Pops

it could yet happen. Earlier, American Will Old-

ham, no one's idea of a pop star with his unfeasibly large fore-head and bared teeth, sold himself short as his fragile and strangely timeless electric folk music was drowned by Saturday night revellers' chatter. The intimacy of his records.

which as often as not sound like someone struggling to come to terms with the 20th century, let alone the millennium, was lost as his faintly sloppy band crudely rendered auch excellent songs as "Madeline-Mary" and the utterly gorgeous number, "One With the Birds". However, his current I See A Darkness album - released under the name Bonnie Prince Billy - remains unreservedly recom-

STEVE JELBERT

A version of this review uppeared in later editions of yesterday's paper

If it ain't got that swing

Pina is not the city, it is the

but it will be up to you to decide

who or what this ghost is." What

else can he say about the themes?

He laughs and shakes his head

When Pina starts work, she

doesn't even talk to us about

themes." Although she must have

certain ideas in the back of her

mind, she prefers to keep things

fluid, so that the material can de-

velop an organic life of its own. Sim-

ilarly, to explain a piece before I see

it is to fix my expectations be-

forehand, closing my mind. "It

would be a betrayal to explain

or the images, that can best express

the emotion I want to convey."

Bausch once told me. "I am not

telling a story in a normal way. Each

person in the audience is part or the

piece; you bring your own exper-

ience, your own fantasy, your own

feeling in response to what you see.

Everybody comes away with a dif-

Sadler's Wells, London EC1, to-

ferent impression."

What I try is to find the pictures,

Viktor to you." Mercy says.

Who is "Viktor"? "He's a ghost:

people living there."

THE LONDON Philharmonic Orchestra calls its popular Friday night series Classics for Pleasure, which we can only assume is intended to draw distinctico from the un-pleasur able experiences that so many of us choose to put ourselves through. Then there was the title of this concert: Taking Jazz Seriously. Presumably Prokofiev's Classical Symphony was slipped in for the bene-fit of those who didn't - take jazz

seriously, that is, Wayne Marshall - conductor and master of ceremonies couldn't explain its presence, either In fact, he couldn't explain much of anything principally be-cause he hadn't put much preparation into his introductions. If you are going to play tour guide with your audience. then you have to be focused about it. And you can't keep

using the word "obviously", be-

CLASSICAL LPO/WAYNE MARSHALL ROVAL FESTIVAL HALL

LONDON cause obviously you wouldn't be there if it were so obvious.

The jazz connection was a little fuzzily thought through. Prokofiev apart (call that an aberration), if you are going to include Leonard Bernstein on the bill, then surely you go for ooe of his New York pieces, his dance music, his jam, "Pre-lude, Fugue, and Riffs". Good though it was to hear again, "Divertimento" - written for the Boston Symphony centennial in 1980 and rarely performed - is rather too cryptic in its musical machinations to be fully appreciated in the context of a programme like this. His songs went down rather better, thanks

genue. "Dream with Me" - a gorgeous and little-known Bernstein song dropped from his 1949 score for Peter Pan was by no means the sweetest soprano you've ever heard.

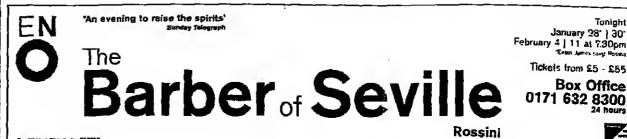
But hot on her heels came

wisecracking Ruth from Ohio with her "One Hundred Easy Ways (To Lose A Man)" from Wonderful Town, at which point those of us with any sense were taking cover. And better yet was her virtuosic rendition of Dinah's scene "What a Movie!" - from Bernstein's remarkable one-act opera Trouble in Tahiti - which isn't a number but a nervous breakdown. Shucking her concert gown for a garish South Sea sarong, Criswell left us in no doubt about that. Later, she and Marshall paid homage to Duke Ellington in his centenary year to the presence of Kim Criswell but this mighty handful of his

Granted, she's not a natural in- greatest hits didn't really sit so well in this hall John Fox's arrangements (particularly his way with strings) got around the "symphony orchestra" anomaly, but where piano alone nursed the voice, the sound bal-

> ance was too uneven. Then again, Marshall is a better pianist than he is a conductor. It's one thing keeping tags on a jazz band - Shost-akovich's "Suite No 1" more or less plays itself - hut getting Gershwin around Paris (An American in Paris) is another matter. Was he late for his plane? You'd expect a jazzer like Marshall to sink his soul into the central hlues (where were those insinuating saxes?), hut real freedom demands the kind of discipline (and technique) he doesn't yet have.

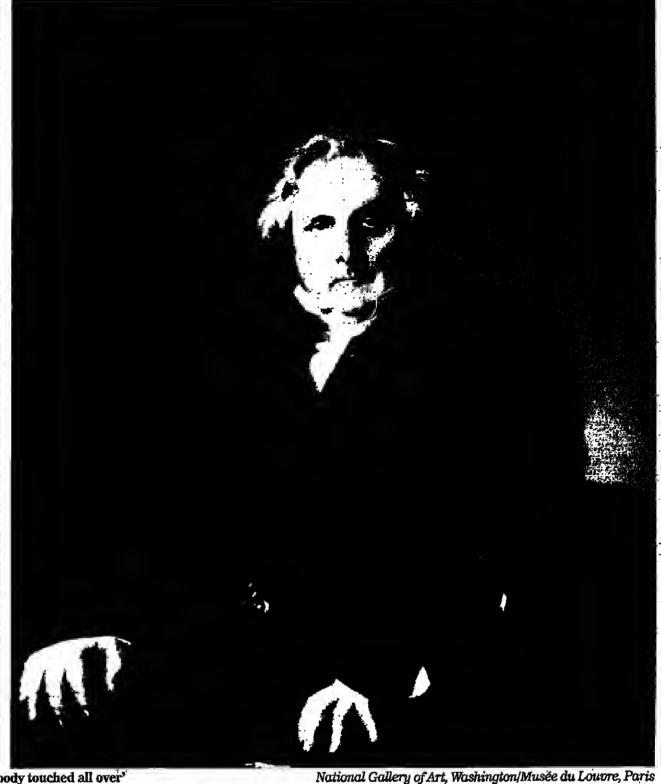
> **EDWARD SECKERSON** Repeated on 29 Jan



Adventures in the skin trade

Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres had a thing about power. About sex. About plump flesh. And he loved a frock. By Tom Lubbock





Madame Moitessier' and 'Monsieur Bertin': 'in Ingres, there's a consciousness that a clothed body is a naked body touched all over

think. In an early self-portrait. he stands before his blank canvas, one arm rubbing it with a cloth, another ready with the chalk, and a third... or rather, no. But slung over his near shoulder, there's a hefty overcoat with a prominent, solidlooking, distinctly limb-like sleeve. The eye can't help doing a double-take every time.

Now you may put this down to a young artist's oversight, but I'm not sure. Ingres (for it is he) was a precocious painter. The oversights of his youth aren't overcome. They turn into the idiosyncrasies of his maturity. He was one of the smartest and most intense of European portrait painters. He could summon up the human presence as few others could. He also had very strong and funny feelings about the human form.

This wasn't always obvious. Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres (1780-1867) used to be one of painting's straight men. the epitome of the slick, the smooth, the square, the 19th-century academic artist por excellence. What that view saw was his formality his high micro-finish, his astonishingly sensitive rendering of tone and texture - and his unflinching flattery of the pride and property of his bourgeois sitters. Rightly: without those qualities, technical and moral, the portraits would be nothing.

morrow, dwelling on one astonishing his pictures of real women, too. creation after another, you're conscious at the same time of other agendas which can

hardly be called hidden. The show's opening knock-out blow is Napoleon on his Imperial Throne, done when the artist was 26. Flattery on the grandest scale, you might say, a triumpb of golden regalia and tassels, red velvet, white fur and satin. But then, think: Bokassa, or some other self-made-up emperor. That's what Napoleon was. And Ingres' picture, with its highly artificial display of the attributes of kingship, on the verge of collapsing into an assemblage of rich hits might almost be mockery, a royalist satire on this Corsican oik, decking himself out in the robes of Charlemagne: a fabricated image of a fabricated authority.

So much for power. As for sex - I don't know that there's a name for Ingres' sexual imagination. It's embodied, almost fully formed, in the 17-year-old's portrait drawing of Barbara Bansi. What's she like? Her upper half is a Frankenstein's monster of idealisations, beauty formulas combined into deformity. The head which seems to be only a swelling on top of the neck, the smoothly arcing shoulder that starts to resemble a humped back, the breasts so high that they project from the collarbone such is Ingres' model woman, the doll he

But going round Portroits by Ingres, realises again and again in his mytho- laid in her lap. Something very strange hap- highly respectable Dublin ladies" complain seat that peeps out just beneath his crotch.

Their voluntuousness isn't only a matter of shape. They are lapped in luxury, a sensuous opulence into which their bodies half-disintegrate. The oval image of Madame Rivière is like a sweet-jar, full of bon-bons and jujubes - a pile-up of gorgeous stuffs, and among them some pieces of fine, plump flesh. A moral critique here is both obvious and powerless. It is

and limp. They seem to be filleted, or like empty skins filled with water, lolling. They often don't seem to be properly attached to the rest of the bodies.

These tender morsels of swelling chubbiness are part of a general air of molestation and innuendo, of voyeurism - or its tactile equivalent - as in accidentally on purpose rubbing or pressing up against someone's body in a crowd. The dresses

Something very strange happens to the ladies' limbs. They go soft and limp. They seem to be filleted

supreme: a perfect marriage of sex and money, a mélange of expensive fabric and expensive skin, the wife a pampered chattel among chattels. But whatever you say, the pictures only reply: "indeed - and how

beautiful, how delicious". But there are more curious goings-on, which begin to exceed anything Ingres' pat-rons might have demanded. Look at the dreamy features of Madame de Senonnes; how they seem to be not quite fixed to her head, to swim, to float in the pool of her face. Or look at her velvet-sleeved right arm, enormously long, apparently lifeless, just

evident that this is bourgeois portraiture and pillows are primped and patted and flounced and tweaked and plumped. (Ingres is the great peintre-couturier. He loved a frock, and got actively involved in what his sitters wore.) His compositions themselves are full of pictorial tucks and nudges: little clusters of sharply rendered accessories that poke in at the corner or peep out behind someone's back. And this feeling is then picked up by the hrushwork, too. The exquisite, meticulous finish of each depicted surface hecomes, as it

were, the painter's finishing touch. It's all very close to that passage of softporn parody in Ulysses, where "several

"He said that he had seen from the gods my peerless globes as I sat in a box of the Theatre Royal ... He lauded almost extravagantly my nether extremities, my swelling calves in silk hose drawn up to the limit, and eulogised glowingly my other hidden treasures in priceless lace..." In Ingres, too, it's the stately poshness of the women that pricks on the fantasy. In Ingres, too, there's the consciousness that a clothed body is a naked body touched all over. These are portraits in which at every point - to use the old divorce-court phrase intimacy occurs.

Is it only women who get such treatment from Ingres? I would have thought so. But fellow critic said that she got this feeling off the male portraits too, and I can see it in some of them. The spreading, placid features of Joseph-Antoine Moltedo seem to lack a supporting skull. His soft-brushed brown coat seems to lack a body inside it. But for a masterfully ambiguous study in masculinity, the portrait Louis-François Bertin has no rival.

Look at the way clothing and furniture feel their way round his stout and imposing figure. The sharp, curving edge of his high collar nicks his jowly chops. The smoothly curving edge of his chairback encases his circumference like the rim of a tub. Notice the patch of hright red chair-

trousered testicles - and then implies his whole, massive underside. Notice the oddly uncommanding nature of the handson-knees pose, the limp arms and stiff, crabby hands that seem to have been just gently placed in that position.

In the end, you have to say that Ingres had a thing (call it a vision, call it an obsession). It was a thing about power and passivity and impassivity, how they're all mixed up. In a way it's a natural concern for a bespoke portraitist - artist, sitter: who commands? who obeys? - but it goes deeper than that. It can take the form of worshipping sensual stupor, as in the extraordinary Washington portrait of Madnme Moitessier, where ahe stands statuesque, her head and neck jawlessly fused, her face that of a dumb Roman matron's hust, her hlank, lazy eyes drifting in divergent directions, her left arm hanging soft and dislocated, her shoulders quite asymmetrical under her dead-centreparted hair-do, her underlip giving a sulky little pout. And I'm not sure what it a about, hut it's absolutely enthralling.

Portraits by Ingres - Images of an Epoch' is at the National Gallery, Trafalgar Square, London WC2, every day, tomorrow to 25 April; admission £6. concessions £4

THE INDEPENDENT COLLECTOR

JOHN WINDSOR'S GUIDE TO COLLECTING CONTEMPORARY ART. THIS WEEK: CHARLES HADCOCK

IF YOU like the look of Nautilus shells, the whorled patterns of sunflower heads or the proportions of the Parthenon, it is for the same reason - what the ancients called "sacred geometry".

Whether in art or nature, certain geometric proportions appeal naturally to the eye. Others seem inharmonious. It is a matter of scientific fact. The ancient Greeks and Romans, and the masters of the Renaissance, knew about the rules of correct proportion and applied them in their art and architecture.

Our age has distinguished itself by forgetting them. But when all the impressionisms, expressionisms and

sensationalisms have run their course, visual art that obeys the timeless laws of sacred geometry will maintain its magical appeal. The 33-year-old sculptor

Charles Hadcock is almost unique in his observance of the rules of correct proportion.

His reward came last year when Passacaglia, his 20 tonne, 5 metre high abstract sculpture in cast

Instead of inspiring derision from the customers of the nearby

candyfloss and sbellfish stalls, it left them wide-eyed and full of praise. Passers-by told Hadcock they loved it, but could not reason why. Hadcock's answer - "sacred geometry" - left them little wiser. Your chance to install some of his sacred geometry in your home comes next month, when he is holding a selling exhibition of

his drawings and maquettes at Imperial College. London. The exhibition includes a hronze cast of the maquette for Passacaglia. Hadcock, an RCA

graduate, has worked the back off his copy of the Architectura of Vitruvius, the 1st century AD architect and engineer who was the Renaissance's chief reference on sacred geometry. His trained eye now spots Vitruvius's celebrated "golden ratio" – that is 1:1.618 – in the most unusual places, even in

iron, was permanently installed on Brighton beach. the shape of polystyrene boxes for frozen fish. By chance, be bumped into the designer of the boxes, who had never heard of the golden



geometry is not always so obvious. He sometimes applies the "golden ratio" to the shape of the space between forms, as well as to the forms themselves, or deviates slightly from it so that the sculpture seems to be striving to achieve geometric perfection.

Despite the mysticism that has surrounded it since the Renaissance, the golden ratio is mathematically very simple. Take a pencil, draw a line, and divide it unequally with a dot, such that the proportion of the smaller bit of line to the longer bit equals the proportion of the longer bit to the line as a whole. That is the golden ratio.

If you draw a "golden rectangle" – that is, one whose long and short sides are in this ratio to one another - you will find that its interior can be divided into a perfect square

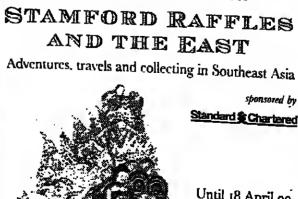
plus a rectangle of the same golden proportion. If you do this repeatedly - in theory, ad infinitum – you will soon recognise the spirals of the Nautilus shell and the sunflower head.

For the mathematically inclined, the ratio is actually 1: 1.6180339 ... an "irrational" number, that is, one that goes on for ever. Perhaps it is magic, after all. The more practical-minded prefer the rule-of-thumb interpretation, which is 8:13.

In Hadcock's Passacaglia, one arm is 1.618 the size of the smaller arm. There is tension between the two because, although at first giance they appear to be trying to complete a circle, they are too far apart and their curves are not circular hut logarithmic - the pure accelerating curve of the Nautilus.

Exhibition prices: drawings from £700, maquettes from £1,500. The Passacaglia maquette is

Charles Hadcock, Drawings and Maquettes, 3-23 Feb, Tues-Sun (11am-6pm), at the Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, The Gallery, Ground Floor, Sherfield Building, Exhibition Road, London SW7 (0171-594 8442)



The Golden Sword __

Until 18 April 99 Mon-Sat 10-4-50 Sun 12-5-50 Admission £4 concessions f.2 Advance booking firstcall 0870 840 HH

BRITISH MUSEUM 0171 323 8783

حكدا من الاعل

- zrei bereit THE PERSON NAMED IN if Aberthan DE STREET September 1 LANG COMPANY · Kitt that Sarrhoos.

The late discount. The Bell THE STATE OF STREET r India. to week then more of particular at the title will be the . Torr does not Section Lon-Terrest in mai

The start The fire began work. And the Serventions 7 - 1" TY 80 00" Dara. The works to show sease is

- The Sections

of in domestic - Louisair all pres The state and has the course The second of the second of

By Tom Lubbock

ALTESDAY REVIEW

HEALTH

Crohn's disease causes chronic intestinal inflammation, and affects thousands. One expert says it is caused by bacteria in cows' milk, and is curable. The medical profession is divided. By Liz Bestic



A split over the milk

beralded by many in the is passed on to bumans." medical establishment as a ough in the treatment of this condition, which affects more than 40,000 people in the UK.

4 ± 23-

1 1 E

. : _: 12

تنته الأوو الم

._ ---- >=:=====

The second second

in in the war fi

But one London professor believes that the disease is caused by a bacterium that can be found in the milk being poured into beakers and breakfast bowls across the land every morning. And he is not the only expert who Lels that Infliximab is just another treatment that suppresses the symptoms of Crohn's disease but does not tackle its causes.

Crohn's disease most commonly affects the small intestine and colon, causing ulceration along the gut that results in intense pain, diarrhoea, hleeding, weight loss and tiredness. For most Crohn's sufferers, the best they can hope for is steroids or antiinflammatory drugs such as Infliximab. However, even with this treatment about 75 per cent of patients still require surgery at some stage in their lives, and even surgery does not cure the disease.

John Hermon-Taylor, professor of surgery at St George's Hospital in London, who has a special interest in molecular and cellular science, believes the causes of Crohn's disease are staring us in the face. He has been working on the disease since the Seventies and believes it is caused by an orinism called Mycobacterium paratuberculosis (M paraTB), which is also responsible for Johne's disease in

cattle and sheep. "The hug, which is very similar to tuberculosis, is found in domestic species and wild animals all over Europe and North America and has increased significantly over the course of this century because of intensive

end charty 210032

LEUKAEMIA RESEARCH FUND

S.A.D.?

or Winter Depression. For VAS FREE

an information pack about

therapy and our exclusive HOME TRIAL system, please get in touch.

Dutside in, the Body Clack Company)

Freepost 1071 (NSC Cambridge CB3 7BR 22 81954 211.955 maxoutables mulk

SAD and details of light

Affective Disorder

n the next few mouths, farming methods. It has learnt to live Infliximab, another new drug in the intestines of animals and causes for the treatment of Crohn's chronic inflammation of the gut," he disease, will come on to the says. "The bug is then shed by the inmarket in the UK: It is being - fected animals into their milk, which

> A recent study funded by the nistry of Agric Food (Maff) showed that out of 31 cartons of milk from 16 pasteurisation plants, six cartons tested positive for M paraTB. "If we want to get rid of M paraTB in milk, we need to he pasteurising milk at a higher temperature than we do for TB," says Prof Hermon-Taylor

"As for the treatment of Crohn's. although the hug is similar to TB it is not affected by anti-tuberculosis drugs. However, we have discovered that this bug can be successfully killed off with a combination of two specific antibiotic drugs, rifabutin and clarithromycin. This treatment is effective in 80 per cent of all cases of

Crohn's disease. Prof Hermon-Taylor's research has been duplicated in Houston, where Dr David Graham conducted a controlled trial looking at the efficacy of clarithromycin as a treatment for Crohn's. They randomly assigned 17 people with severe Crohn's to receive either simple conventional therapy, or therapy with antibiotics. Forty per cent of the patients on antibiotics became well and stayed well for up to three years.

So why is medical opinion so divided on the causes of Crohn's disease and its treatment? One reason is that M paraTB is almost impossible to detect, as it "hides" within burnan cells

"You can't see it down a microscope or culture it in a laboratory, and immunological tests don't detect it either," says Prof Hermon-Taylor. "The only way you can detect it is by revealing the presence of its DNA, and even then the test has to be done

extremely accurately." Dr Derek Jewel, senior gastro-



'Jordan is living proof that M paraTB can cause Crohn's disease and that it can be killed off with the use of these drugs'

enterologist at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, is sceptical about Hermon-Taylor's research. "Professor Hermon-Taylor's original paper showed up M paraTB in about two-thirds of palients with Crohn's disease. but the specificity of the trial was ques-tionable. Although his work seems very convincing, the concern is that the test has never successfully been repeated. Some very reputable people have tried to detect the DNA in the tissue but just cannot do it," be says.

But Prof Herman-Taylor is adamant that his studies have been repeated successfully elsewhere.

"Since 1992 there have been 18 other us he thought that Jordan had Crohn's and nine say it's there and nine say it's not. And all the doctors are arguing like a tree full of parrots.

However, at the University of in buman beings, and in a recent study 92 per cent of people with Crohn's tested positive.

One person who is in no doubt about the link between M paraTB and Crohn's disease is Lesley Lane. Ten vears ago her son Jordan was out playing football with his mates. When he came indoors he had a swelling oo the side of his neck. The GP diagnosed infected lymph nodes. But after two weeks he was taken to Addenbrookes

Hospital in Cambridge for tests. "I was told be had Hodgkin's lymphoma and signed the form to remove the lump," says Lesley. "Three days later they told me it wasn't Hodgkin's. but a form of TB."

A few weeks later the lump came up again and they removed it. Jordan was put on anti-tuberculosis drugs but they didn't work. He had to have more lumps removed and then he seemed fine until 1993, when be suddenly started to get severe abdominal pain and diarrhoea. He lost weight rapidly and was tired and listless. "He looked as if he was wasting away," says Lesley. He was referred to a paediatrician, Dr Nick Barnes, at Addenbrookes. "He recommended we go and see Prof Hermon-Taylor. When he asked me if I was prepared to travel, I said I would go to the ends of the earth if it would make Jordan better."

Prof Hermon-Taylor had already been sent a sample of tissue from Jordan's lump. "He showed us some pictures of cows and pointed to one in particular that looked particularly sick and anorexic. He then explained that the DNA from the cow matched the DNA from Jordan's lump, and told

studies using the DNA test on Crohn's caused by M paraTB. It was the first time anyone had explained Jordan's illness in a way that made perfect sense," says Lesley,

"He told us that the combination of Central Florida researchers have now these two antibiotics would cure the lowed to drink cows' milk again. He was totally honest about the drugs. They had only ever been tried on adults, and they could make Jordan feel ill. But Jordan was so keen to get well, be was prepared to try anything."

Today, Jordan is a strapping 17year-old, in his first job as a trainee accountant. "From being a thin and wasted young lad, he is completely bealthy, and has never drunk cows' milk again. I would advise anyone who has Crohn's to give this treatment a try. I am totally in Prof Hermon-Taylor's debt," says Lesley.

Dr Barnes is also delighted with Jordan's progress. "Jordan is living proof that M paraTB can cause Crohn's disease, and that it can be killed off with these drugs. Far from being a rare case. I believe we are seeing more and more M paraTB in the community. My wife is a GP in a pracbee of around 14,000 patients. Out of the 25 who have Crohn's disease, at least half have a story similar to Jordan's which can be traced to M paraTB," says Dr Barnes. "If I got Crohn's disease today, I would go on the drug treatment like a shot."

Prof Hermon-Taylor has the last word. "We know that in 1999 about 4,000 people will come down with Crohn's disease, which will ruin their lives. In the first half of this century, we dealt with TB in cattle. It's time we now dealt with M paraTB before it becomes an epidemic," be says.

For further information on Crohn's disease contact the National Association for Colitis and Crohn's Disease on 01727 844296

Innumeracy breeds fear

IF YOU held a lunch party and 24 people turned up what would you reckon the chances were that two of them shared the same hirthday? A hundred to one? No. Fifty to one? None. The answer, according to my Sixties edition of Ripley's Believe It or Not, is 50-50. In other words, at roughly half of all events attended hy 24 people, two of those present will celebrate the anniversary of their birth

on the same day. So what? Well, to most people, myself included, this comes as a surprise. and it illustrates how poor we are at making judgements involving statistics. That is wby bookmakers enjoy a good living. It also explains bow figures can he used to frighten people.

The best example is breast cancer, a disease that women. understandably, fear more than any other. I say "understandably" because the figures handied about - one in nine women will get the disease and one in 12 will die of it - make it sound frighteningly common. But it is important, both for women's health and for what we as a nation decide to invest in it, that we have a clear

perspective on the risks. An excellent review in a recent New England Journal of Medicine spells out just what the one in nine figure means. For any group of nine women, hreast cancer will develop in one of them at some time in ber life, but not in the remaining eight.

Most women tend to rpret wis risk short-term probability and grossly overestimate their chances of falling victim over any 10-year period. A women entering her thirties has a one in 250 chance of developing the disease in the next. decade. In ber forties it is one in 77. Although the risk of contracting breast cancer increases with age, the risk in any decade never exceeds one in 34.

Breast cancer is only one risk among many, so it needs to be set in the context of other risks. At any age, the cause of death among women is always likely to be something other than hreast cancer. In fact, although the incidence of the disease increases with age, the proportion of deaths caused by



JEREMY LAURANCE

hreast cancer never exceeds 20 per cent. To illustrate this, the authors used a life table based on figures from the Ontario Cancer Registry. Of 1.000 women born in the same year, an average of 17 will die by the age of 40, none of them from breast cancer. In their forties and fifties, 54 will die - nine from hreast cancer and nine from heart disease and stroke. In their sixties and seventies 305 women will die, 105 from heart disease and 18 from

breast cancer. By the age of 85, 203 women will have died of heart disease and 33 of breast cancer. However, 99 will have developed the disease, approaching the one in nine statistic.

This demonstrates how beart disease and stroke exact a far greater toll than breast cancer. Yet a survey by the National Council on Ageing in the US found that just 9 per cent of women said the condition they feared most was heart disease compared with 61 per cent who said cancer (mainly breast cancer), and there is no reason to suppose that British epuons ' be different.

This distorted view may have important consequences for women's bealth. Aside from the obvious point that they can, if they are so minded, do something to reduce their risk of beart disease, by changing their lifestyle, women who might benefit from HRT may choose not to take it because of their fear of hreast cancer.

Breast awareness campaigns typically use images of young wamen and are targeted at 20-40year-old readers of women's magazines. But two facts are worth stressing. Breast cancer is predominantly a disease of older women; and for most of them it is not lethal.

7 IN 10 CHILDREN The yoghurt cure that's also a killer SURVIVE LEUKAEMIA. **BUT ONLY 3 IN 10 ADULTS** To help or send a dometion connect 43 GREAT ORMOND STREET LONDON WC1N 3.LJ 0171 405 0101

major surgery by adding bacteria to their gut, rather than using antibiotics which kill off both beneficial and harmful bacteria. This could ease the growing problem of antibiotic

resistance in hospitals. The system, developed by Bengt Jeppsson, professor of surgery at University Hospital in Malmo, feeds patients with live bacteria normally found in cheeses and fermented vegetables, in order to encourage their growth in the intestine. At least six people who were in intensive care, and some children with recurrent intestinal infections, have been cured by the

SURGEONS IN Sweden are use of such "probiotic" treathelping people to recover from ment. A total of 300 are now being tested in clinical trials to last through 1999.

"It's a completely new concept," said Prof Jeppsson. "The lactobacillus (is) important for healing ulcers and other wounds in the bowel. When we artificially increase the amount of them in the bowel, they supplant the pathogenic bacteria which also means that you

don't have to use antihiotics." Most people think of bacteria as harmful, an image encouraged by adverts for household cleaners. But only a tiny proportion pose any risk; many more play a positive role. At present, people facing pathogens unaffected.

major surgery are first starved (to prevent choking while under anaesthetic), then fed on intravenous drips after the operation. Bacteria that normally thrive in the gut die off, while the lining of the intestine becomes more permeable as the body increasingly tries to absorb nutrients. This raised permeability can let dangerous pathogens pass into the bloodstream, to cause organ failure or blood-poisoning.

'Friendly' gut bacteria offer a radical alternative to antibiotics. By Charles Arthur

To avoid this, post-operative patients are often given antibiotics. But these indiscriminately kill off both beneficial and harmful bacteria and leave antibiobc-resistant

Professor Jeppsson said, "The theory is that in ancient times we had to store foods using fermentation products. That let these bacteria into the gut... dogs that bury bones get a constant supply of bacteria from the breakdown of the tissues. Many other animals

take now includes too little of these belpful bacteria." The introduction of the probiotic system is taking a long time, though. The first tests, on six people who were on antibiotics in intensive care and showing signs of organ failure, were carried out in 1996. All made a full recovery.

do the same thing ... our food in-

"It is frustrating, but as soon

as we have the full results we could implement this straightaway," said Prof Jeppsson. A replacement for standard

antibiotic use is sorely needed. Earlier this year British doctors were criticised by a House of Commons Select Committee for over-prescribing antibiotics for routine infections - including viruses, against which they bave no effect. Meanwhile more bospital patients are falling ill with MRSA, a resistant

strain of staphylococcus. The probiotic approach to surgery bas not been tested in Britain, but doctors at Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge are using it as a treatment for irritable bowel syndrome.

HOLLAND & BARRETT

Norwegian COD LIVER OIL 410 mg

A Natural Source of Vitamins A & D

A popular natural source of the A & D vitamins which help maintain bones and a healthy immune system. Vitamin A assists in many other functions in the body such as eyesight and skin maintenance.

Cod Liver Oil also contains several important fatty acids which are not cammonly found in other vitamin A & D



HOLLAND & BARRETT

We Guarantee Everyday Low Prices By manufacturing our own products we can keep everyday prices low. We aim to be up to 30% cheaper than our competitors on all directly comparable products. Over 420 Stores Nationwide

THE TUESDAY REVIEW

Is your therapist a friend?

A good counsellor offers many of the qualities you might look for in a friendship. By Paul Gordon

psychotherapists and counsellors is that therapy is "just like talking to a friend". It's annoying because it's saying that, really, there is nothing special to what we as therapists do - anyone can do it - and there's the implication, too, that really it's all a bit self-indulgent. I have taken issue with such remarks more times than I care to remember.

And yet, I have come to think that there may be more to such remarks than insult or ignorance. Therapy is, I believe, much more akin to a form of friendship than it is to anything else. What is being expressed when people compare therapy and friendship is a belief in what friends should be able to do, what friendship a deeper self-understanding. might consist of - and a complaint of what it too often does not. Think of the elements of a good friend. He is someone who has our interests at beart, who has a sense of our history and who respects us. She does not suspend criticism, but is nevertheless tactful. He is someone who can stand back from what we are describing, who can talk bonestly and openly to us, who bas time for us, wbo is attentive and thoughtful and appreciative and can keep his own

ne of the comments that most annoys feelings out of, say, any predicament that we might be describing. These are, to be sure, ideal qualities. Anyone who has them is lucky indeed; their friends are luckier still. But they are, I suspect, what we long for, in ourselves as in others. Are they not also the qualities, or some of them, of a good therapist? I believe they are. . "A friend is a person with whom

I may be sincere. Before him I may think aloud," said the philosopher and writer Ralph Waldo Emerson. And this, precisely is what therapy is about, an opportunity to voice your thoughts, bowever abhorrent, unacceptable, unformed, confused or painful you might think them, without fear of judgement or retribution. You voice them in the hope that you will be understood, and so come to

To say that therapy is a form of friendship is not to suggest that therapists invite their patients or clients to the cinema, to come for a meal, to ring up and discuss a television programme, to give us presents on our birthdays, and so on. The word to be emphasised bere is "form", Not all friendships are the same. There is the friendship of lovers, of family, of colleagues, and of many different degrees, of the people we call friends. Each has its own



Lying around chatting to your friends is great, but lying on the couch talking to your therapist can be an equally rewarding relationship

boundaries and conventions, its own sense of what is appropriate.

The negotiation of these regulations and conventions in a friendship is, of course, a struggle and a challenge for both parties, and it is to do with whether a person wants. or can even tolerate, the degree of closeness and intimacy desired and offered. So, too, must you deal with the disappointments and differences inevitable when two people try to meet each other.

friendship and therapy. A social friendship that does not involve a degree of reciprocity, at least over time, is unsustainable. A lack of reciprocity is, I suspect, why so many friendships founder on a reef of resentment of one kind or another. Therapy, on the other hand, is not reciprocal. As a therapist, I am there for the other person and re-

There is, of course, a major dif- there for me. But this does not ference between most forms of make the relationship any less a friendship, and it does not preclude a reciprocity if this seems appropriate, in the sense of a sharing of your experience or thought.

The fact that one often pays for therapy is a sign that the relationship has its limits, a statement that it is ultimately a professional reltionship. And yet, all the qualities of a good friendship - a welcome, an acceptance, an attunement, an at-

terest, a questioning, a criticism, a distance that does not yet pretend to objectivity, a faith in the other, a commitment to truthfulness, and above all perhaps a responsibility to the other - these surely are the qualities also of an ethical therapy.

In the end, bowever, these can no more be a guide than there could be a guide to friendship. The content and the form of a particular therapeutic relationship - just as the

tentiveness, a suspension of self-in-content and form that cannot be prescribed in advance but must, it they are to be meaningful, be negotiated by the people involved. In the end, whatever the style or orientation of the particular therapist, therapy is a relationship, or at least the offer of one.

> Paul Gordon is a psychotherapist and author of Face to Face - Therapy as Ethics', published by Con-

Don't worry about weight gain when you're taking HRT

sponsible to them; they are not

CAN YOU explain why I should have put on weight since I have been on a low dose of oestrogen for HRT? I am 60 and I swim 250m nearly every day, walk everywhere and eat lots of fresb fruit and veg and little fat, salt and sugar. My appetite has not changed and I eat no more: indeed I drink less alcobol than before I started HRT. Why does

oestrogen cause weight to go up, and what can I do about it? Women who are thinking about starting hormone replacement therapy are often concerned that

it will make them put on weight. The best research into this is the Postmenopausal Estrogen and Progestin Intervention (with apologies for the American terminology), which compared the weight of women who took a placebo with women who took various types of HRT over a period of three years.

This study found that women who took a placebo gained more weight than women who took HRT. Women who took no bormones had an average weight gain of 4.6lb, while women who took HRT gained between 1.5

and 2.9lb. The lowest weight gains were recorded by women who took oestrogen on its own. Women who took HRT preparations containing both oestrogen and progesterone gained slightly more. So, the scientific evidence is that HRT does not cause weight gain. Keep up the exercise, continue with a low-fat bealthy diet, and reduce your calorie intake a little more.

I AM a male in my late forties. At what age should I ask my GP for a prostate check? It is terribly difficult to give a

A QUESTION OF HEALTH



DR FRED KAVALIER

simple, straightforward answer to this question. There is certainly no need to check for non-cancerous enlargement of the prostate gland unless you are beginning to get symptoms. The common symptoms are a slow and weak urinary stream, and difficulty in starting or stopping the urinary stream. If you are worrying about cancer of the prostate, you are probably thinking of having a PSA test. which is a blood test that can pick up early signs of prostate cancer. But the PSA test is often

unreliable – some people will

have raised PSA levels even though they do not have cancer, and some people with cancer will have normal levels of PSA.

The best way to find out more about the PSA test is to read Screening for prostate cancer. Information for men considering or asking for PSA tests. This is published by the NHS Centre for Review and Dissemination at the University of York. You can get a copy from the NHS Information Service on 0800 665544, or on the Internet at http://www.york.ac.uk/inst/crd/ patprost.htm.

IS IT too late to have a flu vaccination?

The mini-epidemic of flu has probably passed its peak, but it is certainly not too late to have a flu jab, particularly if you are elderly or suffer from a chronic disease, such as asthma or bronchitis.

Please send questions to A Question of Health, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL; fax 0171-293 2182; or e-mail to health@independent.co.uk Dr Kavalier cannot respond personally to questions

CLASSIFIED

Public Notices

Independent Hearts

RAILWAYS ACT 1993 PROPOSAL TO CLOSE PART OF THE NETWORK

The Franchising Director gives notice under Section 39 of the Railways Act 1993 that with effect from 31 March 1999 Railtrack PLC proposes to close the following part of the network:

network comprising the siding adjacent to Collier Lane, Carlisle. The Franchising Director supports this proposal. Objections to the proposed closure may be made, preferably in writing,

within six weeks of 26th January 1999, i.e. by 9th March 1999 with:-Ms Teresa Perchard, Passenger Services Group, Office of the Rail Regulator, 1 Waterhouse Square, 138-142 Holborn, London EC1N 2ST. Telephone: 0645 645625 (all calls charged at local rate). Facsimile: 0171

The Rail Regulator may make objections public or copy them to the

operator proposing the closure. A statement of the reasons for the proposed closure can be inspected on any working day between 10am and 4pm at the Office of Passenger Rail Franchising (OPRAF), Golding's House, 2 Hay's Lane, London SE1 2HB, telephone 0171 940 4261, or at The Rail Users' Consultative Committee for North Western England, at the following address: The Secretary, The Rail Users' Consultative Committee for North Wester England, Boulton House, 17-21 Choriton Street, Manchester M1 3HY

or at The Civic Centre, Rickergate, Carlisle CA3 80G.

Copies of the statement can be obtained by request from OPRAF. There will be no charge for copies.

The Rail Regulator will send a copy of every objection to the proposed dosure which is lodged with him to the Rail Users' Consultative Committee (RUCC) for North Western England. The RUCC will then consider whether the proposed closure will cause any hardship and, if so, what reasonable means of alleviating this hardship would be. The RUCC will prepare a report on its conclusions and send it to the Rail Regulator. The Rail Regulator will decide whether the proposed dosure should be allowed and, if so, whether any condition should be attached to the closure.

The siding is to be closed in order to allow the expansion of the car park at Carlisle station. This in is line with the Virgin Trains strategy aimed at increasing the volume of passengers using this station, 40 additional spaces will be created, the standard of 70 existing spaces will

The closure of these sidings will have no impact on any operator's ability to provide passenger services.

CHRIS STOKES

Duly authorised by the Franchising Director

OFFICE OF PASSENGER RAIL FRANCHISING

Blood, drugs and no tears

Von Willebrand's disease - hard to detect but fortunately easy to treat -

may cause women to have abnormally heavy periods. By Sue Royal

TRADITIONALLY WOMEN with heavy periods often suffered in silence. Now that they are more likely to come forward for treat-The professional matchmaking service ment, they are providing valuable clues about the incidence

of a common bleeding disorder.

CONTROL OFFICE AFFICE HOUSE YOU, THE SAME ONE, WAS INDEPOSED AND ACCOUNT OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE SAME OF THE PARTY OF THE P

VIRGINIA CHARLES

for people of quality and integrity

CONTINENTAL MEDICAL RESEARCHER (m. 60+) Idll.siim.energetic.nonsmoker, planning a new life in London, seeks partner (f).MD or

Legal Notices

The tosobency Act 1986 SLITMASTER LTD (In Liquidation)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Siephen Lard of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD was appointed Liquidator of the above named Company by the Members, and Credition on 7th Jamuary 1999. Dated 18th Lanuary 1999 STEPHEN LORD, Liquidate

Health & Leisure

PERMANENT Weight Loss in 1999 Dr Judy Citron psychologist and ex-yoyo dieter can coach and motivate

you by phone Telephone 0181 458 0025

Unusual Gifts

able, Ideal birthday gift, Remember When, Tel: 0181-683 6323. Or CALL FREE 0500 520 000.



Gemini ... rating pitters gives the Gemini the gift of speed of droughs. Geminis are also easily

plemed but often torn in different directions. Compatibility: Libra, Apporter and Gemini. Place your FREE Voice Personals' ad today'

0800 216 351

Voice personals n The Independent on Saturday and in The Independent on Sunday

To advertise please call 0171 293 2347

taining DDAVP (see treatment panel) cut down women's blood loss and the length of their periods. The nasal spray is currently available only from specialist haemophilia treatment centres for named pat-

Von Willebrand's disease was first identified in 1926 by Erik von Willebrand, a doctor from Finland who noticed a new type of bleeding disorder among people living on a group of islands between Finland and Sweden. Between 1 and 3 per cent of the UK population is thought to suffer from this inherited illness, in which one of the proteins that help blood to clot is at low levels, abnormal or almost absent; but most

people have never heard of it. It affects men and women equally, and can cause heavy periods, nosebleeds, and bleeding after surgery. Sufferers often bruise easily. The good news is that most cases are mild, and easily treatable with drugs or a transfusion of the missing factor. However, it is often difficult to diagnose.

Professor Christine Lee, of the haemophilia centre at the Royal Free Hospital in London, has ran a study among women who contacted a gynaecology clinic complaining of beavy riods. She asked them to fill in a pictorial blood loss chart and tested 150 women with heavy loss for bleeding disorders. Of those tested, 13 per cent were found to have you Willebrand's disease.

Prof Lee also discovered that using a nasal spray con-

haemorrhage. Men don't usually have as many problems, unless they need surgery. those with von Willebrand's

ients, as it is still undergoing clinical trials. Prof Lee hopes to run a second study into the incidence of von Willebrand's disease among women students at Oxford University. "The trouble with von Willebrand's is that it causes ill health," she says. People can suffer from anaemia, and healing after surgery or injury takes longer and provides a site for infection."

Although it affects both sexes, it is more of a problem for women because of the debilitating effect of heavy periods. And although pregnancy raises levels of von Willebrand's to

bleeding can be influenced by up to 50 factors, including blood group, fear, stress and preg-

TREATMENTS

retention.

Tranexamic acid: Helps stop bleeding by slowing down the body's process of breaking down blood clots. Taken as a tablet, medicine or mouthwasb. May cause stomach upsets.

DDAVP or desmopressin: A copy of the body's hormone which raises the level of voo Willebrand protein. Given by drip. injection or nasal spray. Can cause flushing,

beadache and water

disease have the mild type 1,

where there is a low level of the

von Willebrand protein. Type 2,

where the von Willebrand fac-

tor is abnormal or does not

work property, and type 3 where

it is almost absent, are more un-

usual. Type3, which is more sev-

ere, is thought to affect only 1

with disaster", says Dr Trevor

Baglin, consultant haematolo-

gist at the haemophilia centre

at Addenbrookes Hospital.

Cambridge. An individual's

General testing is "fraught

in a million people.

Clotting factor concentrates: Given to people with very low levels of the factor or those needing major surgery. Made of screened plasma from blood donors to replace the missing factor. Von Willebrand patients who need blood products have to be vaccinated against hepatitis A and B.

normal, they can fall quickly nancy, and the von Willebrand after childbirth, and cause protein level varies in response.

"In some people, even the stress of having the blood test can bring the von Willebrand More than 70 per cent of factor up to normal levels. If a bloke goes out on a football field. and starts running around, his 19 von Willebrand factor could be 100 per cent," Dr Baglin said.

"In surgery, the trouble is that, if you have general anaesthetic and your body is relaxed, your von Willebrand factor may only be 25 per cent."

The answer has always been to take repeated blood tests, which places a burden on overstretched laboratories, and to examine a patient's clinical history. But that could change, as people with von Willebrand's disease could soon benefit from genetic testing.

Doctors at the University of Sheffield's division of molecular and genebic medicine are applying for European funding to develop a genebic test using computers. "We can do the test at the moment, but it is very laborious," said Prof Ian Peake. The von Willebrand gene is large, and finding the defect involves painstakingly sorting through DNA. "If we can find a way of sequencing DNA... so that it is automatic and with we can get a precise diagnosis," But it will be some years before

the test is routinely available. "It's like saying you have a car that will go at 200mph. They're expensive to make at first; later on they become more common, and the cost of producing them goes down."

... Yarvinch CALLERY PROPERTY. NAT THE LITTLE we can ask that WE IN ADDRESS. WAY YEAR The Party Co.

San Kerman. THE REAL PROPERTY.

Vew la

oft's favourite

. . . Herry to

17.4 Needart. versity. The Card of B and and

The Walters AST COM array of the The at 🍇 the sense that Man STATE OF THE STATE OF Total Carlos Minis.

To are the man - par-The state The same of the sa The Chat HA Se NZE

The state of the s -- Jeste The second secon and empe

here The state of the state of 71 C-17 100 - 1 2 10 2

--7" NEA Par to Same

صكدا من الدجل

HE TE ESDAY REVIEW

MEDIA

Ten years after its launch, Britain's first 24-hour news service has won credibility but hardly any viewers. By Sarah Nathan

Switched on - but Sky has its limits

that was supposed to break the mould of British broadcast news, is ten years old next week. It may be looking staid and old-fashioned, but it now bas a solid reputation for dealing with breaking news fast and well. After a flurry of building and recruitment, as Rupert Murdoch rushed to beat BSB to the "on" button, the station was launched just six

snonths after it was commissioned. It was never the channel that was going to make Mr Murdoch millions but then that was not its purpose. It was there to protect the Murdoch empire from charges of trivialising communications, of being only out for profit, of giving nothing back. One early employee described it as a "beatshield" to deflect criticism from News International's multifaceted operation.

To some extent it has remained that to this day. It was a belp, of course, that the then Prime Minister. Margaret Thatcher, was such a committed supporter. Early on, she decided to give Sky News, which had Itually no viewers, her first big political interview of the year rather than giving it to ITN or the BBC as usual. Indeed after only about a year of transmission, she was reported by Mr Murdoch as describing Sky as

"the only unbiased news in the UK." It was this basic function as a political and PR operation which has kept Sky News going: other Murdoch outlets which cost this much for such a small audience or readership have not had an easy time. Sky News cost around £15 million to set up and had an initial annual budget of about £30 downmarket or introduced gimattract viewers.

Indeed the only begetter of the News Bunny, Kelvin MacKenzie. lasted only a short time at Sky, and his determination to pursue the "weather in Norwegian/topless darts" route to an audience - something which would defeat the whole purpose for which Sky News was established in the first place. After some memorable clashes, including one about the outspoken Tory MP, Alan Clark's multiple mistresses, Kelvin went off to do it his way.

Rupert Murdoch promoted Sky News as a mould breaker. Just months after its launch he addressed the broadcasting tribe at its annual gathering in Edinburgh and beld up Sky News as a model for all news broadcasting. It defended us from bias, be said, because one journalist's opinions would get lost

One source described Sky News as a 'heatshield' to deflect criticism from News International's multifaceted operation

in the acres of coverage. He said channels such as his Sky News were less susceptible to government pressure because they were not dependent on the licence fee and that Sky was more likely to do investigative journalism because it did not need to worry about its statesponsored privileges. This, when seen in the context of his relationship with Mrs. Thatcher or indeed with current Labour politicians, has a certain irony. Whatever the mer- 24, but the presenters seem distract-

ky News, the station was thought to have left because of conservative style. The format is a close relation to American network news, with graphic boxes, a bluisb set and endless straps across the bottom of the screen. It may be oldfashioned: the chaps are mostly mature suits, the women serious and not too threatening and there's almost always one of each. There's little graphic gimmickry and no sensation of presenters dominated by a video wall, the new craze on terrestrial television news. But this simplicity liberates the channel to do

> The Gulf War made rolling news seem like a good idea, and CNN made its reputation, but Sky's particular strength has always been in domestic, buman interest stories. It cleared the schedules to bring us Louise Woodward's trial in all its detail - incidentally forcing the terrestrial channels to rethink bow much of the trial they would transmit. Its coverage of the Omagh bombing was fast and well-judged. Most recently, the discovery of the two Hastings schoolgirls last Friday was an interesting example of its coverage and one where it is illuminating to compare Sky News and its younger

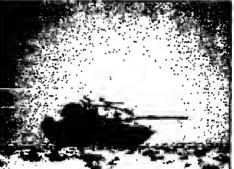
On Friday, Sky News came over as the establishment. It may have looked staid and secure, but it was fast-moving and enterprising in getting the rejoicing parents on-air before anyone else. In a sort of weird role-reversal, the BBC looked the brash, immature newcomer. Its presenters are young and jacket-less.

rival: the BBC's News 24.

They sit in a bright playground of a set and you can see the fear in their eyes. Maybe it's the lasting terror of









Sky News's Adam Boulton about to interview Neil Hamilton, the former Tory MP (top); above (left to right) are screen shots from coverage of the Louise Woodward trial, the Gulf war and the Omagh bombing Main picture: Tony Buckingham

tially slower - stuck in a business programme - but when they picked up the story they really ran with it, using their correspondent to the full, with background packages and rather repebtive library footage.

and didn't follow it up. Sky was ini- was on BBC1's One Clock News. No wonder the poor man looked harassed. I only hope be didn't have to do BBC World, The World at One and Radio Five Live as well.

But, however professional the Sky News broadcasts are, its audi-The BBC trumpets the advantage ence remains pitifully small. It of having 200 specialist correspon-reaches just over one million people micks such as the News Bunny to its of Sky News today, and there are ed. On Friday one appeared to lack dents and thousands of journalists a week on cable and, even in homes many no-one would describe it as a the confidence to listen to what the to gather the news, but at Sky at least with cable, only has a less than one flagship for investigative journalism. correspondent was telling bim. they can focus on getting the story percent share of viewing time. The The station now has an aura of News 24 may have broadcast the for one customer. The BBC's Ste-station's publicity claims it's seen by undoubted competence in a rather news of a possible breakthrough phen Cape was barely through his seven million people a month in

first, but the presenter never noticed live two-way on News 24 before be Britain and makes much of its global reach. The first BARB data for News 24 shows it, rather surprisingly, getting similar figures on cable - more encouraging for the BBC with what is still a fledgling service, but not testifying to a buge unassuaged appetite for rolling teleence and the budget is out of proportion to the number of viewers.

Presenters such as Bob Friend worthy interviewees and their programmes are watched in the offices of papers and broadcasters, politicians and lobbyists all over the country. Rather like Channel 5 News, Sky may be content to have influence disproportionate to its viewers.

As long as Rupert Murdoch and his successors are content to take vision news. For those working on the budgetary rough with the polit-Sky News, it's just as well the influical smooth, there's no reason why the station shouldn't continue for another ten years and more.

and Adam Boulton pull in news- Sarah Nathan is the former editor of Channel 4 News

New labours for Chris Powell

How the left's favourite advertising man helped change the Labour Party's image. By Rhys Williams

FORTUNATELY BMP DDB Needham's work is rather more to the point than its name. The agency has just celebrated its 30th anniversary, in some style it has to be said - a record year for creative awards and new business wins, achievements that made it Campaign's least controversial choice as Agency of the

tears

sto treat-

to Sue Royal

Year. It also threw a party. This is not BMP's style at all When it launched in 1968, the limit Lits ostentation was to insist that te company's name - Boase Massimi Pollitt - featured in red letters on its fleet of chocolate brown Minis. The agency ignored its 10th birthday, held a staff meeting to mark its 20th, and celebrated its quarter-century with a drink (just the one, apparently) and a slice of cake in the office.

The idea of a party was, frankly, alien, much less a celebration that involved packing out the Albert Hali with 5,000 guests and a cake the size of a garden shed. The other significant moment in the whirl of Happy Birthdays was the announcement that Chris Powell, the agency's public face since anyone can remember, was stepping down as chief exec-utive and taking on the more handsoff role of chairman to accommodate his extra-curricular activities.

Mr Powell, among other things, is deputy chairman of the Riverside Community Health Trust, sits on the board of United News and of a local arts council in west London, and is a member of the marketing forum appointed by the New Millennium Experience Company to act as a litmus group on selling the Dome.

"Twe been working on projects outside the agency for four or five years now," be says, "and it was getting embarrassing to have the title of chief executive when other people were running the agency.

Powell, 55, joined BMP in 1969. He was appointed to the board in 1972 and made managing director three years later. He is one of the most re- really can't claim I'm running



Chris Powell: 'Advertising is all I have ever done; it's a bit dull to do only one thing' Phil Meech

spected practitioners of his trade. "Advertising is all I have ever done and it's a bit dull to do only one thing in your life," he explains, insisting that his public sector endeavours are not rooted in altruism, or an attempt to correct the perception of the advertising industry as a conscience-free zone. "Working on a bealth trust is about as different an agenda as you can get from advertising. It's interesting to work with people, district nurses in the main, much more motivated by the satisfaction of their job.

"But, in the end, I fear I have a butterfly mind. The joy of advertising is that you get to look at so many different problems and put your nose mto other people's business. It's a fantastic privilege to be able to do that and give your useless opinions to different people. Although I ish. I'm politically interested and involved. It's the satisfaction of

Powell's interests and hobbies." Powell is a political animal. It runs in the family. His elder brother Charles was Margaret Thatcher's foreign affairs adviser, his younger brother Jonathan is Tony Blair's chief of staff. Powell has been a Labour Party member all his adult life and once ran for the Greater London Council before masterminding BMP's landmark anti-GLC abolition advertising campaign in 1984. The "Say no to no say" campaign was never going to prevent abolition, but it alerted Labour to the possibilities

of advertising.
"The left had regarded advertising as a tool of right-wing capitalism and something that was there to hurt it rather then help it," says Powell "I think the right-wing left, such as but the campaign ensured it re-

around doing good works. It's self- Roy Hattersley, had a distaste of advertising, rather an aesthetic distaste, based on a dislike of bra advertising on escalators."

Powell agrees that it was largely on the basis of the GLC work that he and BMP were approached by Peter Mandelson to form the nucleus of the Shadow Communications Agency, first at the 1987 general election, then again five years later.
On both occasions, the winning

campaigns belonged to the losing side, a fact which Powell finds reassuring. "It would be a terrible comment on humanity if such things made a buge difference," be says. "That said, it probably did belp see off the SDP. The predictions made with good reason in the mid-Eighties were that Labour would become the third party. No sane person thought Labour would win in 1987, partment once read: "Wicket-keeper

mained the main party of opposition. It gave Labour the feeling of frontfooted professionalism."

If Mandelson was the father of New Labour, then Powell was its kindly uncle. So, does someone who has been so intimate with Labour's communications effort have a view on bow the recent fuss has undermined the party's ability to stay on message? "Yes, but not in The Independent," be says.

Powell is rather more forthcoming about BMP and its 30 years of success. Campaign produced a commemorative issue that recalls just how many BMP campaigns, characters and slogans permeated popular culture and passed into the vernacular of their time - "Watch out, watch out, there's a Humphrey about" (Unigate); "It's frothy man" (Cresta); "For mash get smash" (Smash); "Tell 'em about the boney mummy" (Sugar Puffs); and "Follow the bear" (Hofmeister).

Awards and praise bave been piled on work for Courage, John Smith's, Volkswagen and the Health Education Authority's Aids-aware-ness campaigns. Like their spokesman for three decades, BMP's work is thoughtful, often understated but highly effective.

Stefano Hatfield, editor of Campaign, says: "BMP has always created campaigns that are liked by both the industry and the public. They have an excellent populist touch. Chris sets the tone for the agency's decency. He's not luvvie, so he doesn't raise the hackles. He's self-effacing, but he is evangelical about the power of advertising."

Powell also seems to have a bealthy sense of there being more important things in life than advertising. Such as cricket, for example. Legend has it that in the Seventies BMP hired on the basis of cricketing ability. An ad for the creative dewanted. Copywriting skills an asset."

THE WORD ON THE STREET

VISITORS TO Art '99, the London Contemporary Art Fair, are a genteel lot and so were shocked on Saturday afternoon by the sight and sound of a puce-faced man yelling loudly into his mobile phone in the middle of the exhibition hall. Words like "executive" and "the board" were all that could be made out through the man's thick Ulster accent. A closer inspection by one art-buyer identified the ranting man as David Montgomery, chief executive - at the time of writing - of Mirror Group Newspapers. Perhaps this was the moment be learned that his battle to stay at the top of the Mirror had come to an end.

STILL, IF as expected, he ends up with spare time on his hands, Monty will finally have a chance to finish that web site he's been creating between swigs of mineral water at highpowered board meetings. At present visitors to bttp://users.gl.hardnet.com.au/ dmonte/ are met with the disappointing but strangely intriguing notice that "David Montgomery's Home Page" is still "under construction".

THERE ARE certain offensive words that everyone understands should not be uttered on television before the 9pm watershed - the "s" word and the "f" word. The word "bastard" has always been a tricky one for taste police across the land bowever. But at last comes an official ruling from the Independent Television Commission tucked away in its latest complaints bulletin. Viewers of Coronation Street will recall that Jim McDonald let the word slip during a recent spat with exwife Liz over her affair with his occupational therapist. "Its use



was not gratuitous taking into account the shock that Jim McDonald had suffered," the commission concludes. So that's alright then.

LONG-STANDING chief censor James Ferman became a bate figure of the right-wing press because of his liberal views, but at work be wasn't quite as woolly as has been made out.

Ferman displayed an almost pathological aversion to opening the BBFC to the public - probably fearing they're all Daily Mail readers, And a Channel 4 documentary to be screened next month called The Last Days of the Board was very nearly killed because of Ferman's opposition. BBFC president Andreas Whittam Smith is keen to see the BBFC improve its accessibility and so gave Diverse Productions permission to film. When Ferman found out he rang to protest: "The president," Ferman declared, "is not in a position to give permission." Ferman was wrong but Diverse were still kept out of the really interesting meetings where examiners' delle price in detail on films - perhaps feeling that prim civil servants discussing who does what to whom with a chicken and a bucket of custard is still too risque for the public.

Jeff Randall's Sunday Business is proving a success, outflanking its rivals and confounding the sceptics. By Paul McCann

Where the FT meets Loaded

that be conducts his interviews in a greasy spoon café called Andrew's. It is on Gray's Inn Road, just down the street from the old offices of his Sunday Business newspaper, and this is where this most unpretentious of editors lured many of the 35 journalists who now work to produce his paper.

They sat through what then had to be a sales pitch. Today Sunday Business is selling 50,000 copies a week and has gained a reputation for producing not only good stories but also, unlike some broadsheet rivals, stories that are true. Scoops have included the failure of Bernie Ecclestone's Formula 1 bond, and Candover's bid for Mirror Group last week. After just a year, the paper is well on its way to the projected threeyear break-even point of 80,000 sales

But when Randall was recruiting in Andrew'a, Sunday Business was not an alluring prospect for any but the most desperate journalist. It was started in April 1996 by Tom Rubython, the maverick publisherjournalist, and lurched from one financial catastrophe to another, losing staff and backers while attracting only libel writs. It closed in July 1997, and was relaunched under the Barclay brothers' ownership in

"When a newspaper collapses, anyone in a secure job is likely to ask, why should I risk my career?'," says Randall. 45, tucking into poached egg on toast and a giant mug of tea. "Senior journalists who knew me understood what I had planned, and believed I could build the trust the paper would oeed. It was the more junior ones who were wary."

Over multiple fry-ups in Andrew's, Randall built a staff largely from The Sunday Times, The Daily and Sunday Telegraph, the Evening Standard and the International



Jeff Randall: 'We have proved there is a market. I am certainly more confident now than I was a year ago when I was recruiting people'

Times's business section, unusually suading 50 journalists to leave secin journalism, Randall is both popular and successful. "A tot of people are bere just because of him," says one Sunday Business journalist. quickly. It was down to his reputation "There is a real consensus in the and powers of persuasion." Randall built his reputation duroffice that you want to work your guts out for Jeff. Which is just as well. because there is a hell of a lot of

space to fill." Alan Ruddock, editor of Sunday Business's sister paper The Scotsman, and a former colleague from The Sunday Times, respects what Some say now that Randall was Randall did just in getting together the only man who could have made a staff: "At the same time he was re-Sunday Business rise from the 'cruiting, I was briefly embroiled in ashes. A former, and almost leg- the Mirror Group's plans for Sportendary, editor of The Sunday ing Life. It seemed to me that permany of them dominating the front

ure jobs for a start-up title was going to take a very, very long time. But Jeff managed it extremely

ing the soaraway days of the Eightles economic boom. Where other Sunday Times business editors had courted the patrician rulers of City finance, Randall cultivated those who epitomised the brash end of the deregulated Eightles business culture: Sir Tim Bell, George Walker, Gerald Ronson, Frank Warren, even poor Gerald Ratner. He used them to produce a string of City scoops,

The Grand Order

We are currently looking for highly motivated, articulate and well presented Salespeople to work Mon. to Fn. 9 - 5 calling on Businesses

by appointment to discuss the possibilities of

£40k OTE plus mobile phone, health care

For further information please call now

0181 3875010

or Anwer Siddiqi Director

or 091 551144 (EIRE)

and speak to Martin Lee Director

One of the world's leading communications companies is looking for a 4th member of its international team. The candidate will be based in

involvement and understanding of company acquisitions and mergers

· Multi-Lingual (must include fluent English, Dutch and French)

The candidate will report directly to the President of International operations, must be prepared to travel overseas as this will form an integral part of the job and must be a self starter and be able to work

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Job Title: International Busin

Salary: £80,000 per annum

ondon and must have the following qualifications:

New Business involvement and expenence

Extensive advertising and direct marketing experience

Excellent presentation skills both written and oral

and speak to Michael Bergin Director

and company car (after 3 months)

membership of the Grand Order.

pages of other newspapers, let alone their business pages. His favourites include Robert

Maxwell's attempt to buy Tottenham Hotspur, followed up with Alan Sugar's appearance as Tottenham's saviour, and, oddly, since it was not a business story, the planned closure of London Zoo. Rightly, Randall is renowned as a news junkie; "I know for a fact he was physically de-pressed for a fortoight because The Sunday Telegraph scooped him on Murdocb buying Manchester United," says a friend.

He started in journalism on a postgraduate course at the University of Florida where he was advised

degree in economics, decided to Dynamics. Despite a £200,000-plus stick to business journalism.

His first job was on a magazine covering the arcane world of airline financing. After a stint on the Financial Weekly be made it to The Sunday Telegraph as a City correspondent. In 1988 he became assistant city editor of The Sunday Times. He worked his way to managing editor of business news, which came with a seat at the News International monthly board meeting: "Where I got to watch the maestro. Rupert Murdoch," he says...

Having promised himself be would give up journalism at the age of 40, Randall left The Sunday to specialise to get on, and, with a Times for City PR firm. Financial

package be was bored, and six months later took a pay cut to return to The Sunday Times. as assistant editor, and later sports editor, before the Barclay brothers and their edi-tor-in-chief, Andrew Neil, offered him

the editorship of Sunday Business. "It was important to me that the Barclay brothers seemed to understand what was needed. History is littered with newspaper start-ups which were under-capitalised. They all accepted the most optimistic predictions of their distribution, future sales and revenues. There was never any money for rainy days - and rivals such as Murdoch can make

brothers had an understanding of what was needed - and they've got deep pockets."

Randall was unconcerned that there was no research showing enthusiasm for the paper. "There is no point researching a new market, because consumers say they are more conservative than they really are. Pre-launch research would have told Murdoch that people weren't willing to pay to watch sport and

movies on television." Now Randail has figures to prove his bunch that there are at least 80,000 business junkies in the country, and he uses them like the salesman he is: "The FT sells 160,000 h the UK, and we have a third of its market after 45 weeks - and the FT's been going 100 years. The Wall Street Journal has been operating in the UK for 15 years, and has just 13,000 UK readers. So I think we have proved there is a market. I am certainly more confident now than I was a year ago when I was re-

cruiting people."
Randall's growing confidence should see some changes made to the paper. Staff report that at the beginning he was so desperate to dispel the paper's reputation for running poorty sourced stories that everything had to be "triple copperbottomed with belt and braces". The paper was at first, he admits, deliberately boring, so that it could reestablish its credibility. The paper was given authority in part by its classy redesign at the hands of the Scotsman Group's in-house design team. Ally Palmer, design editor of The Scotsman, and John Belknap produced a clean and modern-looking title, Now Randall is promising rather more "attitude" and intends to deliver a paper where "the FT meets Loaded°.

A year ago, such was Sunday Business's reputation that Tesco refused to stock it - until Randall phoned Terry Leahy, Tesco's chief executive, and got it on the shelves. On 27 December last year, when the financial markets and much of the country bad been closed for four days, 45,000 people still went out and sure that rain happens. The Barclay bought Sunday Business.

APPOINTMENTS: MEDIA, MARKETING, SALES

Art Director £55,000 + Bonus

ondon's world acclaimed, award-winning advertising agency, Mother, needs the world's best talent. Only 2 years'old, we have acquired many blue chip clients who have global ambitions. We now need people to help us achieve these goals.

We are very interested in you for this position if you have: * Team Management skills and hopefully some prior associate creative director experience

- * A university degree in Communications or Media
- * Been specifically trained in design and advertising art direction * Minimum 2-3 years' experience in global broadcast, print
- and outdoor scene
- * 2-3 years' experience British media market * A handful of awards
- * Extensive knowledge of Mac computing with a focus on Photoshop, Illustrator and Quark programs along with
- * Energy, enthusiasm and charisma in buckets.

Please send a sample or a photocopy of your favourite recent piece of work, together with your CV, to: Kamgi Chak, Mother Limited. 200 St. John Street, London, EC1V 4JY Ref: Recruitment/Art Director

DO NOT PHONE

IT RECRUITMENT TEAM LEADER

North London

Excellent ££

both permanent and contract. Our days are a buzz from early morning 'til early evening. We work hard, we have fun, we earn lots of money.

We want you to bring your IT Recruitment

Our clients are 'Blue Chip'. Our team is bright and

proactive. We recruit IT personnel at all levels.

enthusiasm to join us as a Team Leader. Our systems are modern, our working practice ISO 9002 accredited. We speak plainly and our sole objective is to do the business for clients and our candidates.

Do you have what it takes?

Call Sarah Grant on: 0181 922 1150/1160

APPOINTMENTS DIARY

Monday Tuesday Media, Marketing, Sales

shot year unic mow A fla shou supp hane unout usupp hane the lost of the lost

Wednesday Thursday Education, Graduate

knowledge and experience together with your

required for Japanese Advertising Agency.

Graphic Designer

Applicants must be fluent in Japanese and English, have experience in using Japanese software for PC and MacIntosh for design, and be capable of training and supervising Japanese staff. Salary £18,000.

Send CV to Nikkeisha Inc., 3rd Floor, 196 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 9LD

♦ URGENTLY REQUIRED ♦ SENIOR DESIGNER

With proven skills in DTP to lead a design team in the development of specialist Japanese language publications. Qualified candidates with minimum 3 years experience, must be fluent in spoken and

written Japanese. Please send CVs to SATO GRAPHICS LTD., 118-120 Gt. Tilchfield Street, London WIP 7AJ

ANALYSIS RICHARD COOK

A touch of gold from Fools and Horses

IN THE beginning was The Colditz Story, and frankly it wasn't much good at all. But six years ago this tale of studiobound wartime resistance was a highlight on the cable and satellite channel UK Gold.

UK Gold was supposed to be a highlights channel, giving viewers another chance to savour the BBC's and Thames Television's finest hours. But the reality was rather different. UK Gold was limited by an agreement with the BBC to show nothing fresher than two years old, and a budget that seemed to let it buy almost no-

thing newer than 22 years old.
"Calling it UK Gold was considerably stretching a point." agrees Ian Lewis, bead of programme evaluation at Zenith Media, the UK's largest media buying agency. "It wasn't above the UK Copper level.

But no more. These days UK Gold is on a roll, it seems. Confirmation of this comes from the Christmas viewing figures.

Christmas is a time when TV riewers traditionally turn away from the arriviste cable and satellite channels for a homely tried-and-tested diet of Christmas specials and Pick of the Year shows.

However, last year during Christmas week the terrestrial channels registered a 2 per cent decline in viewing figures. while the whole of satellite and cable fell by 5 per cent. UK Gold, on the other hand, saw its Christmas week ratings rise by over 20 per cent. In fact a total of 6.5 million adults watched the station over the week.

The numbers are improving from a still-small base, of course - the top-rated show the channel has ever shown attracted just over half a million viewers. However, there is no doubt that this initially muchmocked atation is now finding an audience.

More important is the fact that UK Gold is nuw the leading light in the BBC and Flextech joint venture UKTV, in the vanguard of the Beeb's



UKTV can now show high-quality BBC repeats such as 'Only Fools and Horses'

ambitious passage into a new and digital television. It is, in fact, already the second most popular channel of all those available on cable and satellite. ahead of the sports and movie channels, ahead of the children's channels and behind only Sky One in terms of audience Men Behaving Badly."

programmes, where before we world of commercial satellite had to wait two years after transmission," says UKTV's chief executive officer Dick Emery. "And, though the newer they are the more they cost us, it has meant that we can now show great programmes such as Only Fools and Horses and

'We're now starting to think of ourselves at UK Gold as the sixth network'

numbers. In addition its audience is among the most affluent of satellite TV viewers, something that has helped push up the station's advertising revenue by 25 per cent over the past 12 months. "The biggest change hap-

come that UKTV has paid it another compliment by launching a station called UK Gold Classics on digital satellite. This, as the name suggests, of course, is the rerun service for propened last year, so that we gramming that has already have now got access to all BBC been aired on UK Gold itself.

In fact, so up-to-the-minute

have UK Gold's offerings be

"We are now starting to think of ourselves as the sixth network," adds Emery. "We even launched a big advertising campaign before Christmas. and still only make a tiny operating profit, as we're pushing back revenues into better and better programmes." For once viewers and advert-

isers seem to agree with the hype, "It's hard not say that the BBC has finally got it right with UK Gold," agrees Paul van Barthold, a director of the Media Business advertising group, "If you didn't think there was a place for a quality repeats channel in the multi-channel environment, just consider this. On the Electronic Programme Guide that viewers use to pick between their 200 digital channels on Sky Digital, UK Gold is one of the choices listed on the very front page, along with BBC1 and ITV and the other major players."

حكان الاعل

GEN

-79-300

Transport Hay

1 1 A W

CLASS THIP , LA CLASSE

Section 1

- -

THE APPLE (5:5)

17.11

ELBEI PIG IN THE CITY A

and the second second

Tetter was

DOBERMANN Total and the ba

English of Contract Charles It Serverte

रेस कुछ प्रश्ने । अस्ति dependence and saming page

Territory Cole W Application of the second of t

THE DREAM LIFE OF ANGI The Transfer of the Lead

ENEMY OF THE STATE toan The second of the second क कुल कर कर का **अवत** ACTION OF THE PARTY OF THE PART

Walter Friday

PLITE ADICE

High some

1

Real Property of the Win The branens

THE STATES The second second

A Company of the Comp The second second

The Control of the Co The second secon THE MASK OF ZORRO INS

A CONTRACT OF STREET

Marie Barrier Sully the state of the s

demonstrate that the p

Mary Control of the C May Beering Commence 50

NEW FILMS

BULWORTH (18) **Director:** Warren Beatty

THE THESDAY REVIEW

and this range of the state of

an entropy

They would

This people to be seen to be seen

- Landenta Mp

The state of the s

is any the description of the second of the

To the c thanks

ं देश

in the term to I their

Martin 1987

. If ago when the

de la contraction de la contra

Tel dip

in judi

in the

The Tex

an er time fieleten.

Pan p

· 化湖

10.00吨

11.00

0 0 mg.

72 157

1.0

100

1.7.7.7

3

10.00

- 1 - 50 (July

in the price of th

and the

 $= -\frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(1 + \frac{1}{2})^2 \left(\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)^2 \right)^2} \frac{1}{(1 + \frac{1}{2})^2} \frac{1}{(1 + \frac{1}{2})^2}$

Starring: Warren Beatly, Halle Berry Dog-tired and distillusioned at the end of an election

campaign, woolly liberal senator Jay Bulworth (Beatty) turns suicidal loose-cannon; lifting the lid on US politics, hanging out in the 'bood and delivering his speeches in abrasive rap stylings. Beatty's Bulworth is a blast: crude and condescending oo occasioo, yet genuinely audacious and committed; savaging a corroded democratic system in a way that few mainstream Hollywood films (and Bulworth is bankrolled by Murdoch's Fox Studios) would dare to do. At an age when he might be forgiven for resting on his laurels, Beatty's freewheeling, heart-on-sleeve romp puts him abruptly back in film's front rank West End: Clapham Picture House, Curzon Soho, Notting Hill Coronet, Odeon Kensington, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, Screen on the Green. UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End

CLASS TRIP (LA CLASSE DE NEIGE) (15) Director: Claude Miller

Starring: Clement Van Den Bergh, François Roy Pity poor Nicolas (Van Den Bergh); bed-wetting schoolboy fantasist with few friends and a domineering dad in François Roy's prosthetic-limb salesman. Spirited off on a school skiing trip, the nipper starts letting his own dark imaginings run away with him, as Miller's pungent child's-eye psycho-drama switches nervously between stark naturalism and florid dream sequences. Actually, there's a lot to admire in the tense, smouldering Class Trip. The trouble is, Miller gets overfussy; he keeps messing with the mood, keeps letting air into the pressure-cooker, And you can spot the ending a mile off.

West End: ABC Shaftesbury Avenue Repertory: Cine Lumière

Director: Mark Christopher Starring: Mike Myers, Ryan Phillippe

Christopher's retro-trip through the heyday of New York's Studio 54 boasts a glitterball turn from Myers (as club boss Steve Rubell), but not a whole lot else. What we have here is the buckstering hanger-on to Boogie Nights and The Last Days

of Disco's leading lights: a garbled, underdeveloped run-through of dance-floor chic as Ryan Phillippe's colourless busboy falls in with the beautiful folk (Salma Hayek and Neve Campbell) and learns the downside of life in the fast lane. Tatty stuff, all told.

West End: Odeon Camden Town, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Haymarket, Warner Village West End Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Dagenham Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Harrow Warner Village, Holloway Odeon, Newham Showcase

HILARY AND JACKIE 125) Director: Amand Tucker

Starring: Emily Watson, Rachel Griffiths Full throttle playing from Rachel Griffiths and Emily Watson sustains Tucker's warts-and-all

biopic of the Du Pré sisters, Hilary (shy, married flautist) and Jacqueline (world-famous cellist). Sibling rivalries, a menage à trois and terminal iliness are all carefully navigated by Tucker's finely-wrought direction, though it's as an acting showcase that Hilary and Jackie really hits home. West End: Barbican Screen, Chelsen Cinema. Clapham Picture House, Curzon Mayfair. Curzon Soho, Gate Notting Hill, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Renoir, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on the Hill Local: Greenwich Cinema, Richmond Odeon

PRACTICAL MAGIC (12)

Director: Guffin Dunne Starring: Nicole Kidman, Sandra Bullock

Essentially a sibling soap-opera with a dash of mumbo-jumbo, Practical Magic sees Bullock and Kidman cast as two mismatched sisters raised from a line of witches and hexing any unlucky man who swings into their orbit. The canny star-pairing is soon spoilt by an over-egged eye of-newt broth that mixes Bewitched with Beetlejuice and The Witches of Eastwick. Its spick-and-span surface masks the turmoil of undigested influences. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch. Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End and local cinemas

Xan Brooks

GENERAL RELEASE

THE ACID HOUSE (18)

A trio of interrelated shorts culled from the stories of Irvine Welsh, The Acid House plays out in the down-and-dirty landscape of inner-city Edinburgh, and darts with brio between a range of moods and tones. Less poised and populist than Trainspotting, but more earthy, edgy and intense, too. West End: Odeon Camden Town Local: Newham Showcase

ANTE (PG)

See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelseo, Virgin

THE APPLE (SIB) (PG)

Seventeen-year-old Samira Makhmalbsf's MULAN (U) precocious début stages a true-life re-creation of In this animated feature, a girl disguises the fortunes of Iran's Naderi sisters, raised in seclusion by their parents before being set loose in the world by a visiting social worker. Part docudrama, part rites-of-passage fable, this is an extraordinary missive from a burgeoning Iranian film scene. West End: Metro, Renoir

BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (U)

The follow-up to Babe tosses the hapless "sheeppig" into the midst of the city where he becomes the unlikely saviour of a bunch of assorted waifs. Knockabout comedy is kept to a minimum in favour of a bleak animatronic fairytale. West End: Plaza, UCI Whiteleys And Local cinemas

THE BOYS (18)

Out of jail after serving a sentence for GBH, eldest boy" Brett Sprague (David Wenham) moves back into his mum's drab suburban home, terrorises his girlfriend and turns his younger brothers into petty henchmen. The Boys spotlights the downside of life Down Under - it's potent, predatory stuff, Repertory: Prince Charles

DOBERMANN (18)

Vincent Cassel's born-to-be-bad gangster struts and sneers his way through a gleamingly abstracted Paris while Tcheky Karyo's bad-egg cop looks on balefully. It seems that this is what the new French cinema is all about: endless stylised carnage and iconic posing, plus a script that's going nowhere fast. West End. Metro. Odeon Camden Town, Virgin Trocadero

THE DREAM LIFE OF ANGELS (18) See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: ABC Swiss Centre

ENEMY OF THE STATE (15)

Will Smith's fall-guy DA teams up with Gene Hackman's pensioned-off Pentagon warhorse, probes a political cover-up and gets embroiled in all manner of Big Brother-type trouble. West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road And local cinemas

LITTLE VOICE (15)

Programme and House

Holed up in her bedroom, Jane Horrocks is perfecting strident Shirley Bassey/Judy Garland impersonations when she falls in with Michael Caine's sleazy impresario. Where director Mark Herman's last film, Brassed Off. was a whole and solid effort, Little Voice proves altogether more bitty. But bracing black comedy, Horrocks's vocal pyrotechnics, plus a marvellously weighted turn from Came push it through to the final curtain. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Odeon Comden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, Odeon West End, Phoenix Cinema, Ritzy Cinema, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea, Virgin Fulham Road

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG)

This gaudy swashbuckler gallops full-speed through 19th-century California in the company of Antonio Banderas's authentically Hispanic do-gooder. A lot of colourful duels and clattering action setpieces. West End: Odeon Kensington, Odeon Mezzanine, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Newham Showcase

Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

MEET JOE BLACK (12)

Picking his way through Martin Brest's underdeveloped rehaul of Death Takes a Holiday goes Brad Pitt's squiline Grim Reaper, who gets chaperoned round the everyday delights of Planet Earth by Anthony Hopkins' dying billionaire. The film has a few neat themes and a reliably solid turn from Hopkins, but it's too much a picture of disparate pieces. West End: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

herself as a soldier to spare her ailing father from the certain death of combat. It's one of the most visually innovative movies that Disney has ever made. West End: Odeon Mezzonine Local: Acton Park Royal Warner Village, Barnet Odeon, Croydon Warner Village, Dagenham Warner Village, Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12, Warner Village North Finchley, Hammersmith Virgin, Harrow Warner Village, Holloway Odean, Peckham Premier, Streatham Odeon, Wimbledon Odeon

THE OPPOSITE OF SEX (18)

See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Barbican Screen, Clapham Picture House, Ritzy Cinema, Screen on Baker Street, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Warner VIllaga West End Local: Croydon Warner Village, Ed-monton Lee Valley UCI 12, Feltham Cinevorld. the Movies, Warner Village Finchley Road, Harrow Warner Village, Sutton UCI 6, UCI Surrey Quays

See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: ABC Tottenham Court Road, Curzon Soho, Ritzy Cinema Repertory: Phoenix Cinema

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT (U)

Animated feature which comes across as The Ten Commandments by way of Joseph and His Technicolor Dreamcoat. West End: Empire Leicester Square, Odeon Swiss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Fulham Road, Virgin Trocadero

RUSH HOUR (15)

Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker star in this hit-andmiss-affair. West End: Odeon Morble Arch, Virgin Trocadero, Warner Village West End

A rare Hollywood attempt to get to grips with contemporary geopolitics, The Siege winds up a hopelessly fingers-and-thumbs affair. Denzel Washington and Bruce Willis star West End: Odeon Camden Town, Odeon Kensington, Odeon Leicester Square, Odeon Marble Arch, Odeon Suriss Cottage, UCI Whiteleys, Virgin Chelsea

director François Ozon takes abundant pleasure in dismantling a standard nuclear family. The result is savage and funny one moment, indulgent the next. Repertory: Watermans Arts Centre

SNAKE EYES (15)

Brian De Palma's Atlantic City-set conspiracy thriller stars Nicolas Cage and Gary Sinise Repertory: Prince Charles

THE TRUMAN SHOW (PG) See The Independent Recommends, right. West End: Plaza

WHAT DREAMS MAY COME (15)

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE FIVE BEST FILMS

The Dream Life of Angels (18) Erick Zonca's debut draws its strength from the contrasting personalities of Isa (Elodie Bouchez) and Marie (Natacha Regnier), whose friendship comes alive in the drah environs of Lille.

The Opposite of Sex (18) Christina Ricci plays hitch-on-wheels Dedect

shooting from the lip and causing havor when she moves in with her mild-mannered bruther. Don Roos's script bristles with acidulous une-liners.

The Truman Show (PG)

Peter Weir's ingenious, unsettling fantasy is, in the end, an escape movie - in the case of Truman Burbank, it's breaking out of the round-the-clock TV docu-soap that is his own life.

Darren Aronofsky's dehut (right), l'ilmed in sooty bluck-and-white. tells the story of a genius muthematician. Stylish indie movie which fearlessly combines Wall

Smeet, Jewish mysticism and nightmarish headaches.

Computer-animated comedy voiced by a stellar cast features Woody Allen as a worker ant who becomes an unlikely war hero and opponent of the colony's totalitarian regime. Terrific fun.

ANTHONY QUINN

THE FIVE BEST PLAYS

The Street of Crocodiles (Queen's) A triumphant revival

(right) of Theatre de Complicite's surreal. funny and seering plunge into the imagination of Polish-Jewish writer Bruno Schulz, shot dead by the Nazis in 1942. To 20 Feb

involved in the case. To 6 Feb

The Colour of Justice (Tricycle) Enormously potent staged re-enactment of the Stephen Lawrence inquiry. It coincides with the noroar surrounding the fate of the policemen

The Memory of Water (Vaudeville) Alisoo Steadman pulls off one of the funniest and truest drunk scenes ever in Shelagh Stephenson's fine play about sisters brought back together for their mother's funeral. To 10 Apr

A Month in the Country (RSC, Stratford)

Michael Attenborough directs this Brian Friel adaptation of Turgeney's portrait of all-consuming desire. In rep to 20 Feb

Martin Yesterday (Royal Exchange, Manchester) Marianne Elliot directs this sharp new play from the cult Canadian dramatist Brad Fraser, To 6 Feb

PAUL TAYLOR

THE FIVE BEST SHOWS

Monet in the 20th Century

The gardens and ponds at Giverny dissolve into elemental visions: fiery lights, haze, liquid reflections, voids and depths. The strange last

micro-detailed vistas of our world - stock-exchange floor, cityscape, airport, alpine valley - images filled with more than the eye can see. To 7 Mar

Bridget Riley

Retrospective of the top British abstractionist's career, from shimmering monochromes to colour, stripes, diagonals, and curves. To 31 Jun

Disasters of War (Wolverhampton Àrt Ga((ery) Three ages of war through etchings by Goya (right). Jaques



visions from the blackest of times. To 20 Mar

Willie Doherty (MOMA, Oxford) Contemporary Irish artist, using photos and video to reflect on the imagery of terror and security the road-block, the surveillance camera... To 4.4pr

CINEMA WEST END

ABC PANTON STREET (0870-902 0404) O Piccadilly Circus Elizabeth 2.10pm, Crous Ettzabeth 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.10pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.30pm My Name is Joe 1.10pm, 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.25pm The Negotiator 1.40pm, 5.05pm, 8pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-287 4322 (from 1pm) Diccadilly Circus Hamam: The Turkish Bath 1,25pm, 3,50pm, 8,10pm, 8.35pm There's Something About Mary 1.05pm. 3,30pm. 6pm, 8,25pm

ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE

ABC SWISS CENTRE (0870-902 0403) ♦ Leicester Square/Piccadilly Circus Buffalo 66 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm The Eel 3.55pm, 8.40pm O.40pm fae eer 3.55pm, 8.40pm The Governess 1.35pm, 6.20pm On Connaît la Chanson 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm La Vie Revée des Anges 1.25pm, 3.45pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT

(0870-902 0414) O Tottenham Court Road Little Voice 1.25pm. 3.55pm, 7pm, 9.40pm π (Pi) 1.20pm, 3.25pm, 5.25pm, 30pm, 9.35pm Practical Magic 3.40pm, 6.30pm,

BARBICAN SCREEN (0171-638 8891) & Barbican Hilary and Jackle 6pm, 8.40pm The Opposite of Sex 6.15pm, 8.40pm

CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742) Stoane Square Hilary and Jackie 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm,

CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 3323) & Clapham Common Bulworth 2.45pm, Jackie 1,30pm, 9,30pm Hilary and Jackie 1,30pm, 4pm, 6,30pm, 9pm The Opposite of Sex 2,15pm, 4,30pm, 6,45pm, 915nm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) ♥ Green Park Hilary and Jackie 1pm, 3.30pm, брт, 8.40рт

CURZON MINEMA (0171-369 1723) + Hyde Park Corner/Knightsbridge 3pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

CURZON SOHO (0171-734 2255 (12pm-6pm)) + Leicester Square/Tottenham Court Road Bulworth 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 6.45pm, 9pm Hitary and Jackie 1pm, 3.45pm. 6.30pm, 9.15pm π (Pi) 1.30pm, 4pm. 5.45pm. 7.30pm, 9.30pm

ELEPHANT AND CASTLE CORONET (0171-703 4968) & Elephant & Castle Enemy of the State 3pm, 5.4Spm, 8.20pm Meet Joe Black 3.30pm, 7.25pm The Slege 3.35pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

EMPIRE LEICESTER SQUARE (0990-888990) O Leicester Square Meet Joe Black 12.20pm, 4pm, 7.45pm The Prince of Egypt 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Psycho 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043) ♦ Notting Hill Gate Hilary and Jackie 1pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN

(0870-907 0718) @ Ravenscourt Park/Hammersmith Bulworth .30pm, 4pm, 5.50pm, 8.40pm Little Voice 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Meet Joe Black 12.50pm, 4.30pm, 8.10pm 12.50pm, 4.30pm, b.10pm. Practical Magic 1pm, 3.30pm. 6pm, 8.30pm

ICA CINEMA (0171-930 3647) & Charing Cross That Obscure Object of Desire 7pm The Polygraph (Le Polygraphe) 6,30pm, 8,30pm METRO

(0171-734 1506) & Piccadilly Circus/Leicester Square The Apple (Sib) 3pm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Dobermann 2pm, 4.15pm,

NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705) ↔ Notting Hill Gate Bulworth 3pm. 8.40pm

ODEON CAMDEN TOWN UCI WHITELEYS

UCI WHITELEYS
(0990-888990) & Queensway 54
2.50pm, 5pm, 7 10pm, 9.40pm
Bulworth 1.10pm, 3.50pm,
6.30pm, 9pm Enemy of the
State 3.10pm, 5pm, 9.10pm
Little Voice 1.20pm, 3.40pm,
6.20pm, 8.50pm The Mask of
Zorro 1pm Meet Joe Black
4.40pm, 8.30pm The Opposite
of Sex 2.20pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm,
9.50pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 9.50pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm The Prince of Egypt 2.10pm The Siege 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm

VIRGIN CHELSEA VIRGIN CHELSEA (0870-907 0710) & Sloane Square/South Kensington 54 9.30pm Bulworth 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Enemy of the State 2.30pm, 5.45pm, 8.45pm Little Voice 1pm, 3.15pm, 5.15pm, 7.15pm The Siege 12.45pm, 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9pm

VIRGIN FULHAM ROAD (0870-907 (0711) ← South Kensington Enemy of the State 12.50pm, 3.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Little Voice 12.40pm, 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.30pm The Mask of Zorro

9,30pm like Mask of Zoffo 12,20pm, 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9.10pm Meet Joe Black 1pm, 4.30pm, 8.15pm The Opposite of Sex 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 9pm Practical Magic 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 9pm VIRGIN TROCADERO (0870-907 0716) Piccadilly Circus Antz 12.20pm, 2.10pm, 9pm The Mask of Zorro 12noon,

3.40pm, 6.40pm, 9.15pm 6.50pm, 9.25pm Practical Magic 12noon, 12.50pm, 2.50pm, 3.40pm, 5.40pm, 6.30pm, 3.40pm, 5.40pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm, 9.20pm Rush Hour

ACTON 7.20pm Neet Joe Black 1.40pm, 5.20pm, 9pm Practical Magic 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm Rush Hour 10.10pm The Slege 2pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm Star Trek: Insurrection 2.10pm, 4.30pm,

6.55pm, 9.20pm BARNET ODEON (08705 050007) & High ODEON (08/05/05/0007) & High Barnet Enemy of The State 5.30pm, 8.15pm Little Voice 1.15pm. 3.45pm, 7pm. 9pm Meet Joe Black 12.45pm, 4.15pm. 7.45pm Practical Magic 1.05pm, 3.35pm. 6.15pm, 8.30pm The Slege 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.45pm Star Trek: Insurrection 12.30pm 30pm

BECKENHAM ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Beckenham Junction The Big Lebowski 11.30am Enemy of The State 2pm. 8.20pm Meet Joe Black 1.20pm. 7.20pm Practical Magic 1.15pm. 3.45pm. 6.15pm. 8.45pm The Prince of Egypt 5pm

Trek: Insurrection 12noon, 2.15pm,

BROMLEY ODEON (08705 050007) BR:

Bromley North/Bromley South En-emy of The State 3.25pm, 8.40pm Little Voice 12.15pm. 3.50pm, 7.35pm Meet Joe Black 12.15pm. 3.50pm. 7.35pm Practical Magic 1.40pm, 4.05pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm The Siege 3.25pm, 8.40pm CATFORD ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Calford Enemy of The State 2.40pm. 5.30pm, 8.20pm Practical Magic

1,15pm. 3,45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm CROYDON CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: Croydon West/East Elizabeth 5.50pm Little Voice 4pm, 8,30pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Enemy of The State 3.35pm. 6.30pm. 9.30pm Little Voice 2.10pm. 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm The Mask of Zorro 5.40pm, 8.30pm Meet Joe Black 1pm, 4.50pm, 8.40pm The Opposite of Sex 2.30pm, 5pm. 7.20pm, 9.40pm Practical Magic 3.20pm, 6.10pm. 8.50pm The Prince of Egypt 3pm The Slege 1.20pm, 4.20pm, 7.10pm, 9.50pm 5 tar Trek: Insurrection 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm,

DAGENHAM

WARNER VILLAGE (592 2020) Dagenham Heathway 54 1.10pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.10pm Bulworth 1.50pm, 4.25pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm Enemy of The State 12,40pm. 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9.15pm Little Voice 2pm, 4.20pm, 6.50pm, 9,20pm The Mask of Zorro 5,45pm, 8,40pm Meet Joe Black 12.30pm, 4.30pm, 8.30pm Practi-12.30pm, 4.30pm, 8.30pm Fractical Magic 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 9pm The Prince of Egypt 1pm, 3.20pm The Slege 1.40pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 9.50pm, 9.50pm 6.30pm, 8.50pm

EALING VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD (0870-9070719] BR/O Ealing Broadway Little Voice 1.50pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 9pm Meet Joe Black 2pm, 7.40pm Practical Magic 2,10pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm The Prince of Egypt 5.35pm

EDGWARE BELLE-VUE (0181-381 2556) + Edgware Aa Ab Laut Chalen phone for details Bade Dilwala phone for details Kuch Kuch Hota Hai phone for details The Mask of Zorro 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm The Prince of Egypt 5.30pm Zakhm phone for details

EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) & Tottenham Ha 4.40pm. 6.50pm, 9pm Aa Ab Laut Chalen 4.25pm, 8.15pm Bulworth 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm Enemy of The State 3pm. 6pm. 9.10pm, 9.55pm Little Voice 3.45pm, 6.20pm. 8.40pm The Mask of Zor-ro 5.30pm Meet Joe Black 4pm, 7.50pm The Opposite of Sex 4.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.50pm The Par-ent Trap 3.40pm, 6.35pm Practical Magic 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Rush Hour 10.10pm The Slege 4.10pm, 6.55pm, 9.40pm Star Trek: Insurrection 4.50pm, 7.20pm What Dreams May Come 8.30pm

FELTHAM CINEWORLD THE MOVIES 10181-867 0555) BR: Feltham AA AB Laut Chalath 11.55am, 3.30pm, 7.05pm Bade Dilwala 4.15pm, 9.15pm Bulworth 11.50am, 2.20pm, Bultworth 11.50am. 2.20pm, 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm Enemy of The State 1.10pm, 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Hum Aapke Hain Koun., 11.15am, 1pm, 2.45pm, 4.35pm, 6.20pm, 8.05pm, 9.45pm Hu Tu Tu 11am, 2.15pm, 8pm Kuch Kuch Hota Hai 11.10am, 2.40pm, 5.10am, 1.50m, 1 6.10pm, 9.40pm Little Voice 12noon, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.25pm The Mask of Zorro 1.30pm, 7.30pm Meet Joe Black 1.05pm, 4.30pm, 8pm The Oppo-site of Sex 11.30am, 2pm, 4.30pm, stee of Sex 11.3uam, 2pm, 4.3upm, 7pm, 9.30pm Practical Magic 11.35am, 2pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Psycho 9.35pm The Siege 12noon, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.25pm Star Trek: Insurrection 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.45pm, 7.15pm 2akhr, 5.30pm

NORTH FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 6.50pm, 9.30pm Enemy Of The State 3pm, 6pm, 9pm Little Voice 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm The Mask of Zorro 7pm, 9.40pm Meet Joe Black 1pm, 4.40pm, 8.30pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.20pm The Prince of Egypt 1.15pm, 4.05pm The Slege 2pm. 4.50pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm Star Trek: Insurrection 2pm, 4,25pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm

(Royal Academy)

works of Impressionism. To 18 Apr Andreas Gursky (Serpentine Gallery) Photographs 1994-98: wide-vision, high-finish,

(Abbot Hall Gallery, Kendal)

Callot and Otto Dix. Black-and-white

TOM LUBSOCK FINCHLEY ROAD

WARNER VILLAGE (0171-604 3059) & Finchley Road Bulworth

2pm, 4,30pm, 7pm, 9,30pm Enemy of The State 1pm, 3,35pm, 6,20pm, 9,20pm Little Voice 1,50pm, 4pm, 6,15pm, 8,30pm The Mask of Zorro 3,45pm, 9,15pm Meet Joe Black 1,25pm, 9,15pm Meet Joe Black 1,25pm, 8,45pm The Opposite of 5.05pm, 8.45pm The Opposite of Sex 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm Practical Magic 1.15pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm The Siege 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.40pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.10pm, 6.40pm

GOLDERS GREEN ABC (0181-455 1724) & Golders Green Meet Joe Black 2,45pm.

GREENWICH CINEMA (0181-293 0101) BR: Greenwich Bulworth 4.35pm, 6.55pm, 9.15pm Hilary And Jack-le 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Little Voice 4.55pm, 7pm, 9.05pm

HAMPSTEAM ABC (0870-9020413) © Belsize Park Enemy of The State 8.15pm Little Voice 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm. 8.45pm Meet Joe Black 3pm, 7.20pm Star Trek: Insurrection

2.40pm, 5.50pm

HARROW SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303) O Harrow on the Hill/Harrow & Wealdsrone Doli Sajake Rakhaa 1.30pm Fire 8.45pm Hu Tu Tu 1.30pm, 5pm, 8.45pm The Soldier (Asian Film) 5pm

WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 of The State 12.10pm, 5.55pm, 9pm Little Voice 1.05pm, 3.35pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm The Mask of Zorro 9.20pm Meet Joe Black 12.20pm, 4pm, 8pm The op-posite of Sex 11.30am, 2pm. 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.50pm, 9.30pm The Slege 12.55pm, 3.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm Star Trek: Insurrection 12noon, 2.20pm,

HOLLOWAY
ODEON (08705 050007) + Holloway Road/Archway 54 2,35pm, 4,45pm, 6,55pm, 9,05pm Bul-4.45pm, 6.55pm, 9.05pm Bul-worth 1,25pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.50pm Enemy of The State 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Little Voice 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm The Mask of Zorro 12.35pm, 5.55pm Meet Joe Black 12.20pm, 4pm, 7.20pm Practical Magic 1.35pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm The Slege 12.30pm, 8.50pm The Slege 12.30pm, 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.45pm Star Trek: Insurrection 3.30pm, 8.50pm

ODEON (08705 050007) & Gants ODEON (08/05 050007, Hill Enemy of The State 3pm, 8.10pm Little Volce 1.50pm, 8.50pm Meet Joe 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm Meet Joe Black 12noon, 3.40pm, 7.20pm Black 120001, 3.40pm, 7.20pm, Practical Magic 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm The Slege 12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm, Star Trek: Insurrection 12.20pm, 5.50pm

KINGSTON UPON THAMES ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston Enemy of The State 2.25pm, 8.05pm Meet Joe Black 2.15pm, 7.15pm Practical Magic 2.25pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Star

MUSWELL HILL ODEON (08705 050007) & High-

Trek: Insurrection 5.30pm

gate Little Voice 1.05pm, 3.05pm, 5.05pm, 7.05pm, 9.05pm The Mask of Zorro 1.25pm Meet Joe Black 4.10pm, 7.40pm Practical Magic 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm PECKHAM PECKHAM
PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BRPeckham Rye Bulworth 4.20pm,
6.45pm, 9.10pm Enemy of The
State 3.55pm, 6.30pm, 9.05pm Little Woice 5.05pm, 7.10pm, 9.15pm

Meet Joe Black 5pm, 8.30pm Practical Magic 4.50pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm The Slege 4.15pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm PURLEY

ABC (0870-9020407) BR: Purley Little Voice 6.10pm, 8.30pm Meet Joe Black 7.10pm Psycho 5.10pm, PUTNEY

ABC (0870 9020401) & Putney Bridge. BR: Putney Little Voice 1.15pm. 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm Meet Joe Black 3.25pm, 7.15pm Practical Magic 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.05pm, 8.25pm

RICHMOND ODEON (08705 050007) BR/6 Richmond Hilary And Jackie 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Little Voice 2pm, 4.20pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Practical Magic 1.20pm, 3.50pmm, 6.20pm, 9.20pm

THE SIEGE (15)

In this scattergun satire of middle-class mores,

Robin Williams perfects a lopsided simper as the dead chap who lights out to a cod-Impressionist heaven before jetting southward to rescue his suicide-bride. West End: Warner Village West End Local: Edmonton Lee Valley UCI 12.

(08705-050907) & Camden Town \$4 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm. 9.10pm Dobermann 6.40pm. 9.10pm bootermann 11.50am, 2.05pm, 4.15pm. 6.30pm. 8.45pm Little Voice 11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.25pm. 6.50pm, 9.05pm Practical Magic 12.20pm, 3.05pm. 5.55pm, 8.25pm The Siege 12.25pm.

3pm. 6pm, 8,35pm ODEON KENSINGTON (08705-050007) & High Street Kensington Bulworth 1.25pm, 4.10pm, 6.55pm, 9.40pm Energy of the State 3,25pm, 9.15pm or the State 3,25pm, 9.15pm Hillary and Jackle 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Little Voice 1,55pm, 4.30pm, 7.05pm, 9.40pm Meet Joe Black 12.45pm, 4.40pm, 8.35pm Practical Magic 1,20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm The Siege 12.40pm, 6.30pm

OPEON LEICESTER SQUARE

ODEON MARBLE ARCH (08705-050007) & Marble Arch Voice 1.70pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Meet Joe Black 12.40pm, 4.30pm, 8.15pm Practical Magic 1.05pm, 3.45pm, 6.25pm, 9.05pm The Siege 12.50pm, 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9.10pm

Two Snoking Barrels 1,20pm, 3,50pm, 6.10pm, 8.35pm The Mask of Zorro 2,30pm, 5.15pm, 8.10pm Ronin 2,45pm, 5,50pm, 8.20pm There's Something About Mary 12.40pm, 3.10pm, 5.40pm, 8.15pm ODEON SWISS COTTAGE

ODEON MEZZANINE

(08705-050007) Swiss
Cottage Enemy of the State
12.10pm, 2.50pm, 5.35pm,
8.20pm Hilary and Jackle
12.20pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm,
8.25pm Little Voice 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Meet Joe Black 12.10pm, 3.50pm, 7.30pm Practical Magic 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6.05pm, 8.40pm The Siege 12 3.10pm, 5,50pm, 8.25pm 12.25pm,

ODEON WEST END 8.25pm Little Voice 1.55pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm

PEPSI IMAX CINEMA

2.15pm, 4.30pm, 9pm

F-Rex: Back to the Cretar (3-D) 11.30am, 1.35om, 3.40pm, 5.45pm, 8pm, 10.05pm PHOENIX GNEMA (0181-444 6789) → East Finchley Little Voice 8.45pm x (Pi)

(0171-494 4153) & Piccadilly Circus Everest 9.05pm L5 (IMAX)

12.35pm, 2.40pm, 4.45pm, 7pm

Circus Babe: Pig in the City 12.45pm, 3.25pm Out of Sight 5.50pm, 8.25pm Saving Private Ryan 3pm, 7.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm The Truman 1pm, 3.15pm, 6.15pm,

8.40pm RENOR (0171-837 8402) & Russell Square The Apple (Sib) 1pm, 2.5Spm, 4.50pm, 6.45pm, 8.45pm Hilary and Jackle 3.40pm. 5.10pm.

8.40pm

RITZY CINEMA RITZY CINEMA
(0171-733 2229) BR/O Brixton
Bullworth 4,30pm, 6.50pm,
9.10pm Hijary and Jackie
3.50pm, 6.25pm, 9pm Little
Voice 3pm, 5.15pm, 7.25pm,
9.30pm The Opposite of Sex
2.20pm, 4,40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm
(+ Short: Horseshoe) x (Pi)
3.10pm, 5.20pm, 7.20pm,
9.35pm (+ Short: The Albaltoss) 9.35pm (+ Short: The Albatross) Rien Ne Va Plus 2.30pm

SCREEN ON BAKER STREET

(0171-935 2772) ↔ Baker Street Bulworth 3.05pm, 6.25pm,

8.45pm The Opposite of Sex 2.25pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm,

SCREEN ON THE GREEN (0171-226 3520) + Highbury & Islington Bulworth 3.50pm. 6.20pm, 8.45pm SCREEN ON THE HILL

(0171-435 3386) ◆ Belsize Park Hilary and Jackle 3,10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm 4,45pm, 7.25pm

2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Meet Joe Black 12.30pm, 4.20pm, 8pm Out of Sight 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm 8pm Out of Sight 12noon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm Practical Magic 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm The Prince of Egypt 12noon, 2pm, 4.30pm Rush Hour 7pm, 9.20pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1pm,

WARNER VILLAGE WEST END (0171-437 4343) & Leicester Square 54 12.40pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.40pm Bulworth 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9pm Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrets 9.40pm The Mask of Zorro 12.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.40pm The Cornella of Sev. 1.20pm Opposite of Sex 1.20pm, 3.50pm, 8.10pm, 8.50pm A Perfect Murder 1.30pm, 4.10pm,

11.50am, 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 9.30pm What Dreams May Come 1.10pm, 4pm, 6.35pm, 9.10pm. **CINEMA** LONDON LOCALS

PARK ROYAL WARNER VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) ← Park Royal 54 1.10pm, 3.20pm, 5.40pm, 7.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Enemy of The State 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.35pm Little Voice 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm The Mask of Zorro 1.30pm, 4.20pm, 7.20pm Meet Joe Black 1.40pm,

12.30pm, 3pm

BEXLEYHEATH CINEWORLD (0181-303 1550) BR. Bedeyheath Aa Ab Laut Chalen 1pm, 4,40pm, 8.30pm Bulworth 12.15pm, 2.40pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 12.15pm, 2.40pm, 5pm, 7.15pm, 9.40pm Enemy of The State 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 6.55pm, 9.30pm Little Voice 12.10pm, 2.30pm, 4.50pm, 7.05pm, 9.20pm The Mask of Zorro 1pm, 3.50pm, 6.40pm, 9.25pm Meet Joe Black 12.45pm, 4.15pm, 7.45pm Practical Magic 12.35pm, 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm Psycho 9.45pm The Slege 1,45pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm, 9.35pm Star

ROMFORD ROMFORD
ABC (0870-9020419) 8R: Romford
Meet Joe Black 2.20pm, 7.20pm
Practical Magic 2.30pm, 5.55pm,
8.25pm The Slege 2.15pm, 5,30pm. 8.10pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2 (08705 050007) 8R: Romford Enemy Of The State 12.30pm. 3.10pm. 5.45pm. 8.30pm Little Voice 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.15pm. 8.40pm The Mask of Zorro 2.15pm, 5.15pm, 8.15pm Meet Joe Black 12.30pm, 4pm, 7.30pm The Parent Trap 12.45pm, 3.30pm Practical Magic 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm Psycho 6.30pm, 3.50pm The Siege 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1pm, 3.30pm, 5pm. 8.30pm

ABC (0541-555131) BR: Sidcup Lit-tie Voice 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm eet Joe Black 3.15pm, 7.15pm

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Crick-VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Crick-lewcod Bulworth 1.15pm. 3.50pm. 6.20pm, 8.50pm Enemy of The State 3pm. 5.50pm, 8.45pm Little Voice 1.45pm. 4pm. 6.30pm, 9pm Meet Joe Black 12.45pm. 4.30pm, 8.15pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 4.15pm. 6.45pm. 9.15pm The Siege 1.30pm. 4.05pm, 6.35pm, 9.15pm

STREATHAM
ABC (0870-9020415) BR:
Streatham Hill Antz 1.40pm Meet
oe Black 3.40pm, 7.20pm The Prince of Egypt 1.50pm Psycho 2.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Star rrection 4pm, 6.20pm.

ODEON (08705 050007) BR: Streatham Hill/O Brixton/Clapham Common Bulworth 1.30pm 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Enemy of The State 12.10pm, 2.55pm, 5.40pm, 8.25pm Little Voice 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.20pm Practical Magic 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Siege 1pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm

STRATEORD NEW STRATFORD PICTURE HOUSE (0181-555 3366) BR/+ Stratford East Bulworth 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.10pm Little Voice 1.35pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm Meet Joe Black 1.15pm, 4.45pm, 8.15pm Practical Magic 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.35pm, 9pm The Prince of Egypt 1.45pm

SURREY OUAYS UCI (0990 888990) & Surrey Quays Bulworth 4.10pm, 7,20pm, 9.50pm Enemy of The State 3pm, 9.50pm 8.45pm Little Volce 3 50pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm The Mask of Zorro 3.40pm Meet Joe Biack 4.30pm, 8.10pm The Opposite of Sex 4pm, 7pm, 9.45pm Prac-tical Magic 4.20pm, 6.35pm, 9pm Rounders 3.30pm, 6.30pm The Siege 6.40pm, 9.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 3.30pm, 9.20pm

JCI 6 (0990-888990) BR: 5ut-can-9 Morden Enemy of The State ? 45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Little Voice 4 15pm, 6.40pm, 9pm The Mask of Zorro 3.30pm Meet Joe Black 6.45pm, 8.30pm The Oppo-State 6,45pm, 6,30pm frie opposite of Sex 6,50pm, 9,40pm Practical Magic 4pm, 6,20pm, 8,45pm Rounders 7pm The Slege 9,30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 4,30pm

TURNPIKE LANE ORONET (0181-823 2519) + Jumpike Lane Enemy Of The State inm. 5 45pm, 8 20pm Meet Joe Slack 3.30pm. 7.25pm The Siege : 35pm. 6pm. 8.30pm UXERIDGE

ODEON (08705 050007) & I-bridge Meet Joe Black 12.15pm. 7.55pm, 7.35pm Practical Magic 1pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.50pm LYALTHAMSTOW

NBC (0870-9020424) ⊕ Waltham-itow Central Little Voice 1.30pm, opm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Meet Joe Black 2.10pm, 7.20pm Psycho 2pm, 5.10pm, 8.20pm

WALTON ON THAMES HE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) 8R: Walton on Thames Litcle Voice 3.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm Meet Joe Black 3pm, 7.15pm

WELL HALL CORONET (0181-850 3351) BR: Eltham Enemy of The State 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm Little Voice 3pm,

WILLESDEN

BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) O Willesden Green The Prince of Egypt 4.45pm Psycho 6.30pm, WINBLEDON

ODEON (08705 050007) BR/O-Wimbledon/O-South Wimbledon Wimbledon/© South Wimbledon Enemy of The State 2.30pm, 5.25pm, 8.20pm Little Voice 2pm, 5.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Meet Joe Black 12.25pm, 3.55pm, 7.30pm Practical Magic 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm The Siege 6pm, 8.30pm Star Trek: Insurrection 1.45pm, 3.50pm

MOOTMICH CORONET (0181-854 5043) 8R: Woolwich Arsenal The Mask Of Zor-ro 4pm, 8 10pm Practical Magic 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON CINE LUMIERE Queensberry Place. SW7 (0171-838 2144/2146) Classe de Neige (Class Trip) (NC) 6.30pm.

NFT South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 32321 The Spanish Prisoner (PG) 2.30pm, 6.30pm The Caine Mutiny **ODEON LOCHMEADOW (08705-**050007); Antz (PG): Enemy of the State (15); George of the Jungle (NC) 6.10pm The Day of the Triffids (NC) 7.30pm Icons And Icon-(U): Little Voice (15): The Mask of oclasts: Avant Garde (NC) 8.30pm Zorro (PG); Meet Joe Black (12): Mulan (U): The Parent Trap (PG): Practical Magic (12): The Prince of The Merchant of Four Seasons (18)

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place. VC2 (0171-437 8181) Year of the Horse (15) 1pm Fire (15) 3.45pm Snake Eyes (15) 6.30pm The Wed-

ding Singer (12) 9pm RIVERSIDE STUDIOS CINEMA risp Road. W6 (0171-420 0100) The Plano (15) 6.30pm + The Gov-

mess 8.50pm WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentford, Middlesex (0181-568 1176) Sitcom (18) 4.45pm. 9pm Elizabeth (15) 6.45pm

DUKE OF YORK'S (01273-602503) On Connait la Chanson (PG) 2pm Sitcom (18) 4.30pm, 8.50pm The Boys (18) 6.45pm THEATRE

WEST END

Ticket availability details are for to-

day; times and prices for the week; running times include Intervals.

— Seats at all prices) — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matiness — [1]: Sun. [3]: Tue. [4]: Wed. (5]: Thur. (6): Fri. [7]: Sat

ALARMS AND EXCURSIONS Michael Frayn's new comedy about a dinner party which is interrupted

by mysterious messages stars Fe-licity Kendal and Josie Lawrence.

Gielgud Shaftesbury Avenue. W1

(0171-494 5065) ⊕ Picc Circ, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [S][7] 3pm, £19.50-£27.50 £12,50-£17.50 (restricted

AMADEUS David Suchet stars

as Salieri in Peter Shaffer's ac-

claimed drama based on the life of Mozart. Old Vic The Cut. S£1 (0171-

928 761 6/cc 420 0000) BR/ \oplus Waterloo. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4)[7] 2.30pm, £10-£30, 180 mins.

DART Larry Lamb, Jack Dee, Tim

ham's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 0171-867

1111) & Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7](1) 5pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Lav-

ish family musical based on Disney's cartooo version of the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) & Tott

Ct Rd. Mon-5at 7.30pm. [5][7] 2.30pm, £18.50-£35, 150 mlns.

BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Rus-

sell's long-running Liverpool musi-cal melodrama. Phoenix Charing

Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733)

• Leic Sq/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat
7.45pm. (5] 3pm. (7] 4pm. £11.50£32.50. 165 mins.

BUDDY Musical biog-show tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly.

Ing the one; life of Buddy Holly.

Strand Aldwych. WC2 (0171-930
8800) € Covent Garden/Charing X.

Tue-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm & 8.30pm.
Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats | 11 4pm.

£10-£27, half price Friday matinees.

P CAT'S Lloyd Webber's musical version of T'S Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405

0072/cc 0171-404 4079) ← Covent

Garden/Holborn, Mon-Sat 7,45pm.

[3)[7] 3pm, £12.50-£35, 165 mins.

O CHICAGO Maria Friedman and Peter Davison star in this hit Broad-

way musical about two murderous

women and their nightclub act. Adel-phl Maiden Lane, WC (0171-344 0055] ← Charing X, Mon-Sat 8pm, [4](7) 3pm. £16-£36 (Inc booking fee). 130 mins,

• THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF

AMERICA (ABRIDGED) Reduced

Shakespeare Company's keenly paced theatrical history lesson. Cri-

terion Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) O Picc Circ. Tue

O DR DOLITTLE Phillip Schofield

8pm, £6-£2\$, 120 mins.

£7.50-£32.50, 165 mins.

riews). 130 mins.

CUBE (0114-907 4191) Caresses (18) 9.30pm

WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) Sitcom (18) 6pm Little Voice (15) 6.05pm The Acid House (18) 8.15pm Hamam: The Turkish Bath (NC) 8.30pm

(Sib) (PG) 1.15pm, 7.30pm x (PI) (15) 3.30pm, 9.30pm Man with a Movie Camera (PG)/Un Chien Andalou (18) 5pm

ARTS (01223-504444) The Apple

CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) La Grande Illusion (U) 7.30pm Bulworth (18) 8pm

CHICHESTER NEW PARK FILM CENTRE (01243-786650) Dr Dolittle (PG) 2pm Firelight (15) 3.45pm Dancing at Lughnasa (PG) 6.30pm A Soldler's Never Cries (15) 8.45pm

FILM THEATRE (01473-215544) Dancing at Lughnasa (PG) 2.30pm The Philadelphia Story (U) 2.30pm, 6.15pm On Connait la Chanso (PG) 6pm, 8.30pm

LEICESTER PHOENIX ARTS (0116-255 4854) Pépé le Moko (15) 6.05pm The Knowledge of Healing (PG) 8.30pm

CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18) 2.30pm, 8.15pm Storefront Hitchcock (NC) 5.45pm

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

ABC WHITELADIES ROAD (0117-973 36401: Meet Joe Black (12): The Prince of Egypt (U): Psycho (15): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG)

ARNOLFINI (0117-929 9191); Love is the Devil (18); My Life and Times with Antonin Artaud (NC); Rounders (15); Year of the Horse (15) CINEWORLD THE MOVIES (01275-

831099): S4 (15): Antz (PG): Babe: Pig In the City (U): Bulworth (18); Casper (PG): Elizabeth (15): Enemy of the State (15); Hum Aapke Dil Mein Rehte Hain (U); Aa Ab Laut Chalain (pg); Little Voice (15); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18): The Mask of Zorro (PG); Meet Joe Black (12); The Parreg; meet Joe Black (12); the Parent Trap (PG); Pracocal Magic (12): The Prince of Egypt (U): Psycho (15); Rush Hour (15); The Siege (15); Small Soldiers (PG); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Toy Story (PG)

ODEON (08705-0500071; Dr Dolittie (PG); Enemy of the State (15); Hope Floats (PG); Mulan (U): The Parent Trap (PG); Practical Magic (12); The Siege (15): Star Trek; Insurrection (PG) ORPHEUS HENLEAZE (0117-962

1644); Elizabeth (15); Fear And talks to the animals in this new Loathing in Las Vegas (13): Meet Joe Black (12): The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince of Egypt (UI: Star Trek: Insurrection (PG) stage adaptation featuring Jim Henson Puppets. London Apollo Ham-mersmith Queen Caroline Street, W6 (0171-416 6022) & Hammersmith.

Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4](7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50, 150 mins. SHOWCASE (0117-9723800): 54 (15): The Acid House (18): Antz (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U): Bul-worth (18): Enemy of the State THE GLORY OF LIVING Drama set amongst the trailer parks of southern America from new play-(15); Little Voice (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG): Meet Joe Black (12): wright Rebecca Gilman, Royal Court The Opposite of Sex (18): The Par-Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) & Lek 5q. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 6 ent Trap (PG): Practical Magic (12): The Prince of Egypt (U): Psycho (15): Rush Hour (15): The Siege (15): Small Soldiers (PG): Star Trek:

Mulan (U): The Parent Trap (PG):

Paws (PG): Practical Magic (12):

The Prince of Egypt (1): Psycho (15): Rush Hour (15]: Saving Private Ryan (15]: The Slege (15): Small Soldiers (PG): Star Trek: In-

ABC (0541-555178); Babe: Pig in

the City (U): Enemy of the State (15); Meet Joe Black (12): The Prince of

Egypt (U]: Psycho (15): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Zulu (15)

CAPITOL ODEON (08705-050007)

August (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U]: Enemy of the State (15): The

But Came Down A Mountain (PG):

Meet Joe Black (12): Mrs Brown (PG): Practical Magic (12): The Prince of Egypt (U): Psycho (15): Shadowlands (U): The Siege (15): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG)

MONICO (01222-693426); Little

Voice (15): Meet Joe Black (12)

ODEON (08705-0500071: Antz

(PG): The Edge (15): Legends of the Fall (15): Little Voice (15): The

Mask of Zorro (PG): The Parent

UCI 12 (0990-888990): 54 (15); Antz

aim (pg): Little Voke (15): Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18): The Mask of Zorro (PG): Meet Joe Black (12): Mulan (U): The Parent

Egypt (U); Psycho (15); Rush Hour

(15): The Siege (15): Small Soldiers (PG): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG)

WARNER VILLAGE (01923-

682244); Antz (PG); Babe: Pig In

the City (U): Bulworth (18): Enemy of the State (15): Little Voice

5): The Mask of Zorro (PG): Meet

loe Black (12): Mulan (U): The Par-

ent Trap (PG): Paws (PG): Practi-cal Magic (12): The Prince of Egypt (U): The Slege (15): Star

Trek: Insurrection (PG)

Velvet Goldmine (18)

(U): The Siege (15)

MAIDSTONE

nglishman Who Went Up A Hill.

surrection (PG)

Insurrection (PG): There's Some-● GREASE Energetic stage version of the bit film about life in an Amri-can high school. Cambridge Earlham Street. WC2 (0171-494 5080) & Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4[7] 3pm. £10-£30. 150 mins. thing About Mary (15) WARNER VILLAGE (0117-950 0222); 54 (15); Antz (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Blade (18); Bulworth (18): Enemy of the State (15): Little Voice (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Meet Joe Black (12):

• AN IDEAL HUSBANO Christopher Cazenove and Susannah York in Peter Hall's acclaimed production of Wilde's comedy. Lyric Staftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) & Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£29.50. 165 mins.

O AN INSPECTOR CALLS Stephen Daldry's widely-acclaimed produc-tion of JB Priestley's thriller Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) ⊕ Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm. Sat 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, [7] 5pm. £12-£29.50, 110 mins.

INTO THE WOODS Sondheim and Lapine's acclaimed musical based on the dark side of fairy tales.

Garden. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4)[7] 2.30pm. £15-£27.50. THE INVENTION OF LOVE Tom Stoppard'a play about the life of po-et A E Houseman, author of The Shropshire Lad. Theatre Royal. Haymarket Haymarket. SW1 (0171-930 88001 & Picc Circ. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, [4](7) 2.30pm, booking to Apr 24, £10-£32.50.

• JESUS, MY BOY Tom Conti stars in John Dowie's alternative Christ-mas show. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-494 5070) & Picc Circ. Tue-Fri 8pm, 5at 5pm & 8pm, [1] 3pm & 5pm, ends 6 Feb, £5.50-(PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U): Bul-worth (18): Enemy of the State (15): Hideous Kinky (15): Aa Ab Laut Cha-

• KAFKA'S DICK Eric 5ykes and Julia Mackenzie star in Alan Ben-Julia Industriale Star in Anal Bernett's comedy about the moribund writer. Piccadilly Denman Street. W1 (0171-369 1734) & Picc Circ. In reptonight 8pm, ends Feb 26. £12-£30.

Trap (PG): Practical Magic (12): The Prince of Egypt (U): Psycho (15): Rush Hour (15): Saving Private Ryan (15); The Siege (15): Small Soldiers (PG): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Webset Goldfeine (18) I LITTLE MALCOLM AND HIS STRUGGLE AGAINST THE EU-NUCHS Ewan McGregor stars as the revolutionary activist in David Halliwell's drama. Comedy Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731) & ABC (0870-9020405): Little Voice (15): Meet Joe Black (12): The Par-ent Trap (PG): The Prince of Egypt Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 8pm, [5)[7] 3pm, ends 13 Mar. £7-£27.50.

LORD OF THE FLIES Stage ver sion of William Golding's classic tale of the tragedy which befalls schoolboys living on a deserted island. Lyric mmersmith King Street. W6 0 (0181-741 2311) O Hammersmith. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mat today 1.30pm.

ends 6 Feb, £5-£16. • THE MEMORY OF WATER Alison Steadman and Julia Sawalha star in this touching comedy about three sisters returning home for their mother's funeral Vaudeville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) BR/O Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm. [5])7) 3pm. £10-£27.50.

I LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterniece. Palace Shaftesbury Aw W1 (0171-434 0909) @ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5][7] 2.30pm. £7-£35. 195 mins.

MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vietnam Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) ⊕ Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [4][7] 3pm, £5.75-£35.

First Call

Last Call

IN DAVID HARE'S Plenty, a woman struggles to make

the adjustment from wartime Resistance become to

peacetime wife of a career diplomat. Eventually, she

leaves her husband and drifts towards a series of escapist experiences including an encounter with a fellow WWII comrade. Cate Blanchett (right) takes

the lead role, with Duncan Bell, Debra Gillett and Julian

Albery Theatre, St Martin's Lane, London WC2

EX-LEAD SINGER with The Teardrop Explodes, Julian

Cope recently swapped the role of maverick musician

for spotter of prehistoric sites. His book, The Modern

Antiquarian, which took eight years to research, is an

inspired guide to the countryside. Expect pop music,

poetry and history on Cope's national tour this month.

Stables Theatre, Milton Keynes (01908 583928) 4 Mar;

Sallis Benny Theatre, Brighton (01273 709709) 5 Mar;

Junction, Combridge (01223 511511) 7 Mar; Glee

Club, Birmingham (0121-643 6101) 9 Mar, Arts Centre,

Gloucester (01452 505089) 11 Mar, Watershed, Bristol.

Wadham, Directed by Jonathan Kent.

(0171-369 1730) opens 15 Apr.

(01179 299008) 12 Mar

IHEATRE

COUNTRYWIDE

THEATRE ROYAL Betrayal Pinter's

defining work stars Imogen Stubbs and Douglas Hodge. 26 & 27 Jan, 7.30pm, 28-30 Jan, 8pm, £9-£22.50, concs available, Sawclose (01225-448844)

NEW VIC STUDIO Freebird Jon Ivay's black comedy about three motorcyle couriers on a mission to cornwall. Mon-Wed 7.30pm. Thur-Sat 8pm. ends 30 Jan. £9. concs £6.

YVONNE ARNAUD THEATRE

Sleuth Peter Bowles and Michael Maloney star Mon-Thur 7.45pm, Fn-

Sat 8pm, mats Thur & Set 2.30pm, ends 30 Jan. £10.50-£20.50, concs

available, Millbrook (01463-440000)

LEICESTER HAYMARKET THEATRE Single' in

THEATRE ROYAL Girls' Night Out

in thiza Lads and lasses in a steam-ing frenzy, Ibiza style. Tue-Fri

7.30pm, Sat 6pm & 9pm, ends 6 Feb. £9-£13.50. Clasketgate

THEATRE ROYAL Jack and the

Beanstalk Gladiator Scorpio and

26-30 Jan, 2.30pm & 7.30pm, £6-£15.50, Royal Parade South (01752-

POOLE ARTS CENTRE The Holly

and the lay Though-provoking study of life in a vicarage from Middle Ground Theatre. 25-30 Jan. 7.45pm. £11.50, concs £7.50. Kingland Road

THE MILL AT SONNING Two Dozer

Red Roses Comic love story set in romantic Rome. Tue-Sat 8.15pm

mats Sat 2.15pm, ends 20 Feb. £21.95-£32.95 incl meal. Sonning Eye (0118-959 8000)

SALISBURY PLAYHOUSE Blithe

Spirit Noel Coward's comedy is re-vived for his centenary. Mon-Wed

Su Pollard climb the giant bea

King Street (0117-987 7877)

CHELTENHAM

GIIILDFORD

(0116-253 9797)

(01522-525555)

LINCOLN

POOLE

SALISBURY

(01703-711811)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON

terside (01789-295623)

WATFORD

(01923-225671)

WESTCLIFF-ON-SEA

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE

The Winter's Tale Seasonal tale of

obsessive jealousy directed by Gre-gory Doran. Today 1.30pm & 7.30pm, ends 4 Mar. £7-£30 Wg-

SWAN THEATRE A Month in the

Turgeney's portrait of all-consuming

sexual desire. Tonight 7.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £5-£30. Waterside (01789-

PALACE THEATRE Darkness Falls

Double bill of sinister drama, Mon-

Thur 7.45pm, Fri & Sat 8pm, ends 20 Feb. £4-£15.75. Clarendon Road

PALACE THEATRE CENTRE Murder

is Easy Stage adaptation of Agatha Christie's country house murder

mystery. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 30 Jan. £5.50-£14.50, concs available Lon-

don Road (01702-342564)

4655661

• THE MOUSETRAP Agatha Christie's whodunnit just keeps on running. St. Martin's West Street, WC2 (0171-836 1443) & Leik Sq. Mon-Sat. 8pm. [3] 2.45pm. [7] 5pm. £10-£24.50. 135 mins.

DOKLAHOMA! Maureen Lipman stars in the National's acclaimed pro-duction of Rodgers and Bammerstein's cowboy versus farmhand musical Lyceum Wellington Street, WC2 (0870-606 3446/cc 606 6446) Onaring X/Embankment, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm. ends 26 June, £10-£35.

O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musical, Her Majesty's Haymarket, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 0171-344 4444) OPIcc Circ, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, (4)[7] 3pm, £10-£35.

• ANNHE Rags to riches story of the optimistic orphan. Victoria Palace Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) 8R/O Victoria. Tue-Sat • REINT Musical inspired by La Bo-heme and set in modern day New York. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Av-erue. WC2 (07000-211221) © Hol-7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, (1) 4pm, born/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. 4]]7) 3pm. £12.50-£32.50. Healy in Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wynd-barn's Charino Cross Road, WCZ

as the historical villain. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 0171-836 0479) ⊕ Charing X/Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [7] 2.30pm, £10-£27.50. DESCHARD III Robert Lindsaystars

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE OLIVER: Peter Pan Stephen Oliver's music accompanies the tale of the Boy Who Would Not Grow Up, with Michael Bryant as the Storyteller, in rep today 2pm, ends 20 Feb.

D LYTTELTON: The Forest Alan Ay-ckbourn's new version of Ostrovsky's black social satire stars Frances de BASINGSTOKE HAYMARKET THEATRE Corpse
Ian Targett and Ian Lindsay star in
Gerald Moon's high-camp comedy
thriller about a penniless actor. MonThur & Sat 7.45pm. Fri 6pm & 9pm.
ends 6 Feb. £9.50-£15.50, concs
available. Wote Street (01256la Tour. In rep tonight 7.30pm. O COTTESLOE: Copenhagen New drama from Michael Frayo about the discovery of the atom. In rep conight 7.30pm, ends 27 Jan. 145 mins.

I NT2000: Hobson's Choice Can e Quentin reads from Harold Brighouse's memorable drama. Tonight 6pm. Olivier & Lyttelton; £8-£27. Cottesloe; £12-£18. NT2000; £4, concs £3, Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000).

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE CONFANY

THE BARBICAN: The Merchant Of Venice RSC production of Shake-speare's drama about love and money. In rep tonight 7.15pm, ends 9 Mar. 180 mlns.

O THE PIT: Shadows: Riders To The Sea & The Shadow of The Glen & Purgatory Triple-bill of drama by WB Yeats and JM Synge. In rep tonight 7.15pm. ends 27 Mar. Bar-bkan Theatre: £5-£27. The Pit: £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre. £C2 (0171-638 8891). BR/+ Barbl-

O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER HIL 1970s musical featuring legendary songs by the Bee Gees and starring Adam Garcia, London Palladium Arsvil Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) ← Oxford Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, (4)[7] 2.30pm, £10-£32.50, 135 mlns.

● THE SNOWMAN Award-winning production of Raymond Briggs's contemporary classic, Sadler's Wells At. The Peacock Portugal Street, WC2 (0171-863 8222) € Holborn Temple, Tonight 7.30pm, ends 30 Jan, £7.50-£32.50.

• STARLIGHT EXPRESS Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-musi-cal, Apollo Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 6070) BR/O Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [3][7] 3pm. £12.50-£30. 150 mins.

THE STREET OF CROCODILES Bruno Scultz's short stories provide the inspiration for Theatre de Complicite's acclaimed and absurdist drama. Queen's Shaftesbury Avenue, WI (0171-494 5040/cc 0171-344 4444) Picc Circ. Tue-Sat 8pm, [7] pm. [1] 5pm. ends 20 Feb. £6-£25.

THINGS WE DO FOR LOVE Belinda Lang stars in Alan Ayckbourn's comedy. Duchess Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5075/cc 0171-344 4444) Covent Garden, Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5][7] 3pm, ends 30 Jan, £15-£27.50, 140 mins.

O VASSA Howard Davies directs a new stage version of Maxim Gorky's tale of a matriarch and her downtrodden family, Albery St Mar-tin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730) ◆ Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [5](7] 3pm, ends 27 Mar, £5-£29.50.

THE WEIR Copor McPherson's drama is set in Ireland and examines ideas of 8hosts and angels. Royal Court Downstairs (at the Duke Of York's) 5: Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-565 5000) ⊕ Leic Sq/Char-ing X. Mon-5at 7.30pm. [4][7]

3.30pm, £5-£25, 90 mlns. • WEST SIDE STORY Brand new productioo of Bernstein's classic musical altempting to recreate the leel of the original Broadway hit. es Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5972) ← Leic Sq/Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5][7] 3pm.

£18.50-£35. 160 mins OWNISTLE DOWN THE WIND Lloyd Webber's new musical based on the film of the same name. Aldwych Aldwych. WCZ (0171-416 6000/cc 0171-836 2428| ♥ Hol-

born. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. |5((7) 3pm, £10-£32.50. 120 mins. THE WOMAN IN BLACK 5Usan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238'cc 0171-344 44441 & Covent

THEATRE

3pm. [7] 4pm. £8.50-£23.50. 110

BEYOND THE WEST END ARTS THEATRE Krapp's Last

Tape Edward Petherbridge performs Samuel Beckett's melacholic piece. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Frl & Sat 5.30pm. ends 6 Feb. £11-£15. Great Newport Street. WC2 (0171-836 3334/cc 741 99991 O Leices ter Square.

HAMPSTEAD THEATRE Perfect Days Poignant comedy about one n's desire for motherho Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 3.30pm, ends 30 Jan. £9-£16, concs £6. Av Road, NW3 (0171-722 9301) + Swiss Cottage.

LAZ You'll Have Had Your Hole THEATRE ROYAL Motive Kate Irvine Welsb's modern revenge O'Mara and Clive Mantle star in this tragedy, Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Mar murder mystery. Mon-5at 8pm, mats Thur 2.30pm, Sat 4.45pm, Mon-Thur £14.75, Fri-Sat £15.74. ends 6 Feb. £6-£25, concs available. Thames Street (01753-853888) Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-434 0403) & Tottenham Court Road.

TRICYCLE THEATRE The Colour of **EXHIBITIONS** Justice Dramatisation of the Stephen Lawrence case, Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sat 4pm & 8pm, ends 6 Feb. £8-£13.50. Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000) & Kilburn.

ABERYSTWYTH ABERYSTWYTH ARTS CENTRE
Here to Stay: Arts Council Collection Purchases Of The 1990s Contemporary art inspired by domesticity
and everyday objects. Mon-Sat 9am5pm, ends 30 Jan, free. Penglais
(01970-623232)

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY Mary Potter (1900-1981) Retrospective of the artist's largely figurative paintings. Mon. Tue & Thur-Sat 10am-5pm, 5un 2pm-5pm, ends 28 Mar. free. Church Street (01273-290900)

BRISTOL ARNOLFINI Secret Victorians A vinion of the 19th-century presented by 20th-century artists. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 31 Jan. free. Narrow Ouay (0117-929 9191)

WATERSHED Places of Presence Newfoundland Kin and Ancestral Land: Mariene Creates The Canadian artist combines objects, pho-tographs, texts and hand-drawn memory maps. Mon-Sun 9am-11pm, ends 7 Mar, free. Canon's Road (0117-925 3845) CAMBRIDGE

THEATRE ROYAL Mother Goose Panto extravaganza about the fahled fowl. 26-30 Jan. 7.15pm, 28-30 Jan. 2.15pm. £3-£16. King Street (0117-027 7073) FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM The Society of Three; Whistler, Fanth-Latour and Alphonse Legros Exhibition of drawing and prints ex-amining the common stylistic ground of the three artists. Tue-Sat 10am-Spm, Sun 2,15pm-5pm, ends 14 Feb, free, Trumpington Street (01223-332900) Party Steven Pinder (Brookside's Max Farnham) stars in Mike Leigh's comedy about social niceties in 1970s suburbia. 26-29 Jan. 7.45pm. 30 Jan. 2.30pm & 8pm. £5.50-£15. Regent Street (01242-572573)

CARDIFF FFOTOGALLERY Josef Koudelka Photographic images in a major ex-hibition spread across four galleries. Tue-Sat 10am-5.30pm, ends 14 Feb. free. Charles 5treet (01222-3416671

LONDON BRITISH MUSEUM Building the British Museum Tracing the homes of the institution from Montagu bouse to the present. Ends 18 Apr. £1, concs 50p (incl entry to Roman Baroque Drawings). The Golden Sword: Stamford Rafthe Rain High water mark of Amer-lean musicals. Tue-Sat 7.30pm. ends 6 Feb. E7-E19.50. Belgrave Gate

fles and The East Art and artefacts exploring the life and work of the founder of Singapore. Ends 18 Apr. Roman Baroque Drawings Drawings from the collection. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 18 Apr. £1, concs 50p (incl entry to Building the British Museum). Great Russell Street. WC1 (0171-636

1555) ← Russell Square/Tottenham Court Road Holbom. NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY John Kobal Photographic Portrait Award Sixth annual exhibition of se-The Art of Cooking: Barry Mars-den Photographs of chefs displayed in the cale, Ends 1 Apr. Free. Gerald Scarfe at the NPG Political

caricatures. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm. Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 6 Apr, free. St Martins Piace, WC2 (0171-306 00551 ← Charing Cross. **ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS Mon**et the the 20th-Century Paintings made in the later years of the greal Impressionist's life. Mon-Thur. Sun 9am-6pm. Fri & Sat 9am-10pm.

ends 18 Apr. E9, concs E6, child (12-18) £3. child (8-11) £1.50. Bur Ion House, Piccadilly, W1 |0171-413 1717) & Green Park. TATE GALLERY Art Now 16: 5ome-

thing is Missing - Jean-Marc Bus-tamante Installation exploring nternational cities in photographs. Ends 31 Jan. Turner in the Alps Works on paper made on Turner's first Alpine trip in

7.30pm, Thur-Sat 8pm, ends 13 Feb. 99-£15. Malthouse Lane (01722-1802. Ends 14 Feb. In Celebration: The Art of the Country House Paintings and sculp SOUTHAMPTON MAYFLOWER THEATRE Goldifocks ture, including work by Canaletto, Stubbs and Holbein, Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 28 Feb, free, Millbank. and the Three Bears Frank Bruno, Karl Howman and Emily Symons in this star-studded panto. Tonight 7pm, ends 14 Feb. £7.50-£17.50, concs available. Commercial Road

VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM Picasso's Ladies: Wendy Ramshaw Precious-metal jewellery. Ends 15 Silver and Syrup: A Selection from the Collection Work by lead-

ing photographers throughout his-Elsewhere - Photographs from The Americas and Asia: Henri Cartler-Bresson Lesser-known subjects by the 90 year-old photographe Mon-Sun 10am-5,45pm, ends 12 Apr. £5, concs £3, under 18s/U840/mems/disabled/NUS/af-

ter 4.30pm Iree, Cromwell Road. SW7 (0171-938 8441) + South

ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM Nineteenth-Century French Drawings Recent acquisitions alongside miliar major drawings. Ends 28

The Painterly Brush Oil sketc

dating from the 16th to the early 20thcentury Ends 21 Mar. 18th and 19th-century hangings. Tue-Sot 10am-4pm, Sun 2pm-4pm, ends 28 Feb, free Beaumont Street (01865-278000)

WOLVERHAMPTON WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY Disasters of War. Callot, Goya, Dix Selections from three artists elchings. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, ends 20 Mar. free, Lichfield Street (01902-552055)

CLASSICAL

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

ST DAVID'S HALL Johann Strauss Orchestra/Warren-Green Music by the Strauss family, with the Johann Strauss Dancers. Tonight 7.30pm. £10.50-£19.50. The Hayes (01222-LONDON BRITTEN THEATRE, ROYAL COL-

LEGE OF MUSIC Classical Ensem-ble/Page Symphonies by Dittersdorf and Mozart. Tonight 7.30pm. 55-615 from 01395 223 4000. Prince Consort Road, SW7 (0171-591 4314) South Kensington/High Street ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Philhar-

monia/Eschenbach Mozart's last Piano Concerto, played by Imogen Cooper, with Brahms's Symphony No.1. Tonight 7.30pm. E5-E30. South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242) 8R/ Waterloo.

WIGMORE HALL Raphael Wallfisch/Philippe Graffin/Jeremy Menuhin Piano Trios by Mandelsenhn and Schubert, Tonight

OPERA

LONDON LONDON COLISEUM The Barber of Seville Rossini's enduring comedy in a revival of ENO's production originally directed by Jonathan Miller, Tonight 7,30pm. £5-£55. St. Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-632 8300)

DANCE

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE Stomp Eight performers create a witty rhythmic symphony. Tonight 7.30pm. £10-£22.50. concs available, reductions available for Group bookings. Oaklands Park (01243-

LONDON STUDIO THEATRE, NORTH WESTuk Bigh energy show. Tonight 7.30pm. E6, concs E4. North Wharf Road. W2 (0171-641 8424) Edgware Road/Paddington.

SWANSEA TALIESIN ARTS CENTRE Nats Nus Dance Company: Que Dius Que Que? Toni Mira's production. Tonight 7.30pm. £7.50, concs £5. Singleton Park (01792-296883)

LITERATURE

LONDON **BOOKBINDING 1998 Examples** from the 1998 Bookbinding Com tition on display alongside short listed novels for the 1998 Booke Prize for Fiction. British Library Foy-er Euston Square NW1 (0171-412 7760) DE Euston/Kings Cross. Mon/Wed-Fri 9.30am-6pm, Tue 9.30am-8pm, Sat 9.30am-5pm, Sun 11am-5pm, free.

TED HUGHES REMEMBERED A ration of the life and work of Ted Hughes, with poetry editor and broadcaster Graham Fawcett. Pitshanger Manor Mattock Lane W5 (0181-567 1227) ← Ealing Broad-way. Tonight 7.30pm, £5, concs £4.

COMEDY

BATH
THE FEZ COMEDY CLUB AT CADIL-LACS Surreal Welsh comic Noel James, Pierre Hollins, MC Robin loce. Tonight 8pm. Walcot Str. (01225-464741) £5, concs £4.

JOHNNY VEGAS AT THE TALK OF LONDON The clown prince of pottery mixes audience singalon masterclass ceramics. Tonight 8pm. ends 30 Jan. Parker Street, off Drury Lane. WC2 (0171-387 2414) ♣ Covent Garden, £12.

JOHN SHUTTLEWORTH IN KEN'S KARVERY AT BLOOMSBURY THE-ATRE Graham Fellows, the star of 500 Bus Stops and Europigeon entertains. Tonight 8pm. ends 30 Jan. Gordon Street, WC1 (0171-388 8822) ssell Square, Tue-Thu E10, Fri-Sat £12.

CLUBS

LONDON FORGERY AT DOGSTAR Patrick Forge and Richard Welch play jazzy sounds, including bits of disco drum'n bass, Latin and deep house Tonight 9pm-2.30am. Coldharbour Lane, SW9 (0171-733 7515) BR/O Brixton, free.

INDIGO AT MADAME JO 10'S Felchley Hawkes and DJ Karminsky play easy listening. Tonight 9pm. 2am, 8rewer Street, W1 (0171-734 2473) → Piccadilly Circus, £7. concs before 10.30pm £5.

EVENTS

BRIGHTON
HOLIDAY ON ICE Ice dance extravaganza with special guest star
Robin Cousins. Brighton Centre
Kings Road (0870-900 9100) Fri
7.30pm. Tue-Thu 2pm. Sat 2pm,
5pm & 8pm, Sun 2pm, ends 31 Jan,
£10-£18, OAP £8.50-£14.50, child

LONDON
THE ART WORKSHOP Activities such as mosaics, mirrors, fabric, glass and ceramics, plus a bead bar to create Valentine gifts. The Art Workshop Rosemont Road NW3 (0171-431 5696) ⊕ Finchley Road. Mon-Fri 9.30am-5.30pm, cost of

NINE MOONS: DAVID REDFERN Series of collages encompassing the moons of Earth, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune in a variety of materials. Royal Observatory Greenwich National Mariome Museum 5E10 (0181-312 6735) BR: Maze Hill/DLR: Greenwich. Mon-Sun 10am-5pm, ends 30 Apr. Usual admission (£5, concs £4, child £2.50.

MARKET HARBOROUGH NAVVIES EXHIBITION Photographic exhibition about the navvies and their families who set up camp and their tamiles who set up camp along the Great Central Railway route. Harborough Museum Adam & Eve Street (01858-821085) Mon-Sat 10am-4.30pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 14 Feb. free.

MUSIC

CAMBRIDGE BELLATRIX A rare trip here for the Icelandic pop charmers who sup-ported Blur at home. Boat Race East Road (01223-508533) Tonight 8pm. phone for prices.

THE CORRS, PICTURE HOUSE. The Irish roots-tinged easy listening family quartet showcase their massive-selling "Talk on Corners" album. Westpoint Centre A30S2 (01392-

prices. GUILDFORD MANSUN New Wave-influenced rock outfit, whose debut made the top of the charts, four the new album, Six Civic Hall London Road (01483-

446000) Tonight 8pm, phone for

THE MITTENS, DEAD AMERICA Big riffs and blazing passion from the highly charged female-fronted alt-rockers, with much attention after only a handful of gigs with a borrowed Peachfuzz guitarist. Barfly at the Falcon Royal College Street NW1 (0171-482 4808) & Camden Town. lonight 8.30pm. £5, concs £3.50.

444555) Tonight 7.30pm, E9.

THE SERVANT, ANGELTECH Bedraggled stories from the darker side of post-romo. Upstairs at the Garage Highbury Corner N5 (0171-607 1818/cc 0171-344 0044) & /BR: Highbury & Islington. Tonight

MUSIC JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK

SPIKE ROBINSON QUARTET uous mainstream tenor Hermit Club Shenfield Road (01277-218897| Tonight 8,30pm, £6, mems

BRIGHTON

WARK EDWARDS TRIO Gifted contemporary pianist. Sussex Arts Club Ship Street (01273-727371) Tonight LONDON

MARK CROOKS, NICK RAMM SE and piano-led modern jazz. 606 Club Lots Road 5W10 (0171-352 5953) 🗢 Fulham Broa Court. Tonight 9.30pm & 12mld-night. £4.95. STANLEY TURRENTINE Funky Blue

Note saxist beloved by the rare groovers. Jazz Cafe Parkway NW1 (0171-916 6060) O Camden Town. Tonight 9pm, £16, adv £13.50. THREE'S A CROWD Cabaret revue

with Patricia Hodge, Steve Ross and Sheridan Morley, Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge 5W1 (0171-235 5273) & Hyde Park Corner, Tonight 9.15pm & 11.15pm, £20, £18 adv. CEDAR WALTON Legendary Teran hard bop pianist, Romaie Scott's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747) & Leicester Square. Fonight 9.30pm. £15. mems £4 (Mon-Thu): £20, mems £8 (Fri-Sat).

BILLY JENKINS BLUES COLLEC-TIVE Bewildering freeform blues guitarist. Vortex Stoke Newington Church Street N16 (0171-254 6516)

BR: Stoke Newington. Tonight 9.15pm, £7. SOUTHAMPTON

HARRY BECKETT QUARTET Guest saxist joins exploratory contemporary trumpeter. John Ariott Room rary trumpeter, John Artist. Staff Club. Southampton University (01703-593600) Tonight 8.30pm, £6. NU5 £4. concs £3

EM 9.00 S Greening. uno Chris Mo 6.00 Cive W Lamaco . tk uno Digital U Peel 12.00 O Emma B 4 Ez FM) ah Kennady. 9.30 KM

my Young 20 Johnnie Walte Their Greates 0-1 9.00 Or Showthiz See! Double 10.30 12.00 Katrina L LOO Alex Laste. 3 CAMH FM) Air. showerks. further of the Wee Composite of the

Radio 3 Lundri he BBC Orchestra Ausic Machine Tune erformance on 3 ty to hear Hande la 11 Pamasso in fe celebrate a ros in a performanc London Hand www.n. Jeni Bem Lunn (sopranos). in Miles-Johnson 8 (mezzos). Stephe London Handel Dwnys Darlow Control Five pro

In the work of a wife

thu argued with pas

is introduced by

outspoken voice 2

Turnim introduce

English Language Night Visions. The of this recent pe w Taylor, played by

The Angel of Pennsylva. (24249), 8.00 Stolents. 10.00 Fly Away Kirk. 12.00 The Directs. of the Day, 1.00 Holyes 1. 2.00 One Fine Day St Stolen Women (1996 4 Home (1996) (5773 M Day (1996) (36688 1086 2.05 The Abys (

13471 4.25 - 6.00 feet CT MOVEMAX What a Way to Gd (1964 ?-An Unexpected Family & 100 What a Way big 044 3.00 The Heed Her: 230 5.00 Tel Me Note.

7.00 An Unexpect THIT HLOO Anaconda (25) Z.301 The Grotesque (898.55 the Bleak Michwiter (1998) ry the 13th Part VI. To W (938282) 5.30 - 7.00 4-(1997) (93605). ENY CINEMA LONG The Nutly Professor (E. 6.00 Hotel Reserve 7994201). 8.00 The Lighton 8125201). 10.55 The Great 1-2

(7906046). 10.00 100 Year. C 1970) (72210065). 12.40 No. 1 Lonely Heart (1944) (51699 22 Express (1948) (35)80114 400 -Arc (1993) (3413540) 5.55 Co FILMFOUR 6.00 Widows Peak (894) PS Little (1964) (7887220, 10.00 PS (1991) (88309539) See Foliate: 12.05 Le Mepris (1963) (422) The Man without a Face (46) --

3.55 Vidom (1988) (7523) 12 Stranger Left No Card (602) DISCOVERY CHAME 4 10 Rex Hunt (H63677 42) 5-5.30 History's Turning Post of the Co. Animal Doctor (MASS) 25es (286079.1; 7.30 Benna:
25es (286079.1; 7.30 Benna:
(1453220). 8.00 The Cles (51.5)
Ultimate Thai Roles (51.5)
Liss (9849862). 10.00 Benna:
(9859249). 11.00 The USc (15.5)
12.00 Reference:

ASBC1 M STELAND
AS BBC1 LONDON & Sec.
6.30 Nowsine 6.3) #23 824
(4477), 11.00 Patricks
11.30 Ladies Nort and
Cal (29877) 12.20 Crises
(926716), 240 BBC Fire 12
(286716), 240 BBC BBC1 SCOTLAM BBC1 SCOTLAND
AS BBC1 LONDON & SE
Dochard Mor (Date)
6.00 News 1771 6.30 (AZ3)
12.05 Scotten (AZ3)
12.05 S

ANGLIA



(g.

TUESDAY RADIO

(97.6-99.8MHz FM) 6.30 Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening. 2.00 Mark Raddiffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 5.45 Newsbeat. 6.00 Citve Warren. 8.00 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session. 10.00 Digital Update. 10.10 John Peel 12.00 The Breeze block 2.00 Emma B. 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mills

TO ESDAY REVIEW

RADIO 2 (88-90.2MHz FM) 6.00 Sarah Kennedy. 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan. 9.30 Kan Bruce. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stew art. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Alen Freeman: Their Greatest Bits. 8.00 Nigel Ogden. 9.00 Our Pet - 50 Years in Showbiz. See Pick of tha Day. 10.00 Susan Jeffreys Says ake It a Double. 10.30 Richard Alinson. 12.00 Katrina Leskanich.

RADIO 3 (902-924MHz FM) 6.00 On Air. 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4,00 Voices. 4.45 Music Machine.

3.00 - 4.00 Alex Lester.

H-SHOP WAR **5.00** In Tune. 7.30 Performance on 3. A rare opportunity to hear Handel's sperkling serenata 'll Parnasso in festa' - composed to celebrate a royal wedding in 1734 - in a performance recorded at the 1997 London Handel Festival withairi Lawson, Jeni Bern and 200 Joanne Lunn (sopranos). Deborah Miles-Johnson and Catherine King (mezzos), Stephen Varcoe (bass), London Handel Orchestra/Denys Darlow. 9.55 Postscript. Five programmes in which the work of a writer from the past who argued with passion for change is introduced by a contemporary outspoken voice. 2: Sir Stephen Turnim introduces excerpts from George Orwell's essay 'Politics

÷ : - C

e Coservator

Free Estimates

1... N_00---

40

THE TOTAL DAVID REFER

. . . . AT HAPEOFOUGH

Samuel West. 10.20 Night Visions. The first recording of this recent piece by Matthew Taylor, played by the Camp-Ensemble.

8.00 The Angel of Pennsylvania Avenue

(1996) (24249), 8LOO Stolen Women (1996)

SKY PREMER

(721114)

SKY MOVIEMAX

(82355). **7.00** An Unexpected Family (1996) (98065). **9.00** The Haunted Heart (1994)

Heart (1997) (93805).

SKY CINEMA

FILMFOUR

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

Stranger Left No Card (8438244).

1.30 Flightline (9120447). 2.00 Close.

 $\int_{\{\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2}\}} d^{2} d^{2}$

25-120-20

in a long of the section

(37317). 11.00 Anaconda (1997) (92152).

Friday the 13th Part VII. The New Blood

4.00 The Nutty Professor (1963)

(8523688). 6.00 Hotel Reserve (1944)

(7994201). **8.00** The Lighthorsemen (1966) (7906046). **10.00** 100 Years... 100 Movies

8125201). 10.55 The Great White Hope

(970) (72210065). 12.40 None but the Lonely Heart (1944) (518599). 2.35 Berin Express (1948) (35180114). 4.00 Joan of Arc (1993) (3413640). 5.55 Close.

6.00 Widows' Peak (1994) (7886775). 8.00

Lifth (1964) (7881220), 10.00 Point Break (1991) (88309539). See Pick of the Day.

12.05 Le Mepris (1963) (1452843). 2.00

The Man without a Face (1993) (1482262). 3.55 Visiom (1988) (7658331). 5.25 - 8.00

20 Rex Hunt (1463607), 4.30 Walker's VSrid (1452581), 5.00 Flightline (1906572), 5.30 History's Turning Points (1476171).

6.00 Animal Doctor (1473084), 6.30 Griz-

(1453220), 8.00 The Quest (1935084), 8.30 Ultimate Thrill Rides (1914591), 9.00 Taran-

tulas (9849662), 10,00 Buried Alive (9859249), 11,00 The U-Boat War (1836125), 12,00 Ballooning (3453737).

LOO History's Turning Points (4635756).

(1988) (938282). 5.30 - 7.00 The Hired

and the English Language'. Reader

PICK OF THE DAY

comedy drama about a cheeky Cockney con-man, whisked out of prison to serve the rest of his sentence rehabilitating a community centre on a riot-torn council estate. Jim Eldridge's Coming Alive (11.30am R4) certainly tries to palm you off with a few dodgy stereotypes (Karl Howman, in the lead, loudhailers every line), but it has an

10.45 Night Waves. How far is it

African poet and journalist Antije

full truth of its recent history?

possible for a country to expose the

Richard Coles talks to leading South

Krog, whose new book, 'Country of

My Skull, gives a powerful account

of the aims and achievements of the

sion. He also discusses a new exhibi-

tion of Airican photography since the

1920s which offers an intimate view

of social life in Africa. Plus news and

of the Whitbread Book Awards.

12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

9.00 NEWS; No Triumph, No

10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour.

12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

1.00 The World at One.

2.00 NEWS; The Archers.

2.15 Afternoon Play: Elemental

3.00 NEWS; The Exchange: 0870

4.00 NEWS; The Learning Curve.

1.30 Full Orchestra.

3.30 The Vale. (R)

3.45 This Sceptred Isla.

11.00 NEWS; Nature: Startings.

11.30 Coming Alive. See Pick of

9.45 Serial; The Victorian Internet.

t1.30 Jazz Notes.

(924-94.6MHz FM)

9.30 The New Recruit.

Purcell (R)

RADIO 4

6.00 Today.

Tragedy.

the Day

010 0444

12.57 Weather

Truth and Reconciliation Commis-

COR BLIMEY GUVNOR, a new immediately persuasive charm. Our Pet (9pm R2) is not a homage to a hamster but a thoughtful tribute to the biggestselling British female singer to date, Petula Clark (right), who has now had 50 years "in the business". Sir Peter Ustinov and Honor Blackman are among those providing useful links between the star and her music. DOMINIC CAVENDISH



4.30 Shop Talk. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 The Cheese Shop Presents -7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 7:15 Front Row. Mark Lawson with the arts programme, including an investigation into the relationship between plano teacher and pupil a time of inspiration and self-expression, or fear and loathing across comment on tonight's announcement

7.45 Inner Voices. Finders Keepers'. Written and performed by Rikkie Beadle Blair. With David Squira. Di-rector Jeremy Mortimer (2/10). 8.00 NEWS: File on 4 Doctors in the United States say more than a hundred thousand people die there every year because of adverse reactions to prescribed medicines. Mark Whitaker investigates the scale of the problem in Britain and asks why we know so little about what could be one of the country's

biggest killers. 8.40 In Touch. Peter White with news for visually impaired people. 9.00 NEWS; The New Healers. Gene therapy promises amazing breakthroughs in the treatment of human diseases. Rita Carter investigates the practical and ethical difficutties involved. 9.30 No Triumph, No Tragedy. Disabled achievers in the United States talk frankly to Peter White about how their disabilities have af-

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Sound of Trumpets. By John Mortimer. 2: Terry Flitton meets Agnes Simcox, owner of 'The Dust Jacket', Hartscombels Incal independent bookshop. And what is the mystery surrounding Slippy Johnson, current at the Skurfield Young Offender's institute?

11.00 NEWS; The Patrick and Maureen Maybe Music Experience. Patrick Barlow and Imelda Staumon play Patrick and Maureen. They are getting on so badly they are forced to present their final show from separate studios. Even that does not stop them quarreting. With Peter Jones, Carta Mendonca, John Ramm, Simon Creenal and special guest Rachel Weisz. Written by Patrick Barlow. 11.30 Talking Pictures. The latest

film news, with Brian Sibley. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Round Ireland with a Fridge. In 1997, as a resuit of a drunken bet, Tony Hawks hitchhiked his way around ireland with a fridge 12.48 Shipping Forecast. LOO As World Service.

5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. RADIO 4 LW

(198kHz) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 12.04 News; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament.

RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 Breakfast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. Fi Glover and the 5 Live team present live reports from the big news and sports events of the day, including Moneycheck, and Fis guest in conversation. 4.00 Drive. Peter Allen and Jane Garvey with news and sport, UK travel updates every 15 minutes with Lynn Bowles 7.00 News Extra

7.30 The Tuesday Match. Russell Fuller presents coverage of all the night's top football action, including the first leg of the Worthington Cup semi-final between Sunderland and 10.00 Late Night Live. The day's big stories with Nick Robinson. Including

10:30 a full sports round-up. 11:00 News and finance, And between 11.30 and 100 a sharp and spirited late-night topical discussion. 1.00 Up Al Night 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM (10010-1019NHz FM)

6.00 Nick Bailey, 8.00 Henry Kelly, 12.00 Requests, 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths VERGEN RADIO

(1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 1058MHz FM) 6.30 Chris Evans, 9.30 Mark Forrest. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Harriet Scott. 7.30 Pete & Geoff, 10.00 James Merritt, LOO Steve Power. 4.30 - 6.30 Richard Allen. **WORLD SERVICE RADIO**

(198kHz LW) 1.00 The World Today. 1.30 On Screen 145 Record News 2.00 The World Today, 2.30 Women Who Dared to Speak, 3.00 The World To day, 3.20 Sports Roundup, 3.30 World Business Report. 3.45 Insight. 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today (400-700).

TALK RADIO 6.00 Big Boys Breakfast with David Banks & Nick Ferrari 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 100 Anna Raeburn, 3.00 Peter Deeley. 5.00 The SportZona. 7.00 Eubank's People. 8.00 James Whale 1.00 - 6.00 lan Collins

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

The favourites Slough further set their mark on the Four Nations Chess League (4NCL) at the weekend with two victories which left them a massive four points clear after six of the eleven rounds.

A seven-one win against Richmond on Saturday was followed by the much tougher match against my club, Wood Green, on Sunday - who had done ourselves no favours with a lackadaisical performance against Wessex resulting (just) in a 4-all draw, but were still clear second.

Playing Black, I was happy to accept when Tony Miles offered me a draw still in the opening. Further draws followed with a single Slough victory but the match still seemed close after three hours or so since we had pressure on a couple of boards, especially Malcolm Pein's. In repeating moves in a much superior ending to reach the time control, however, Pein did so once too often, allowing Colin McNab to claim a draw. (His misery was complete, poor man, when he learnt that, minutes earlier, his beloved Liverpool had let in two late goals to be ejected from the FA Cup by Manchester United.)

After about five bours' play there were just two games left, in each of which we were the exchange up and in each of which we were in serious trouble. Although both were saved the final result was an honourable but conclusive defeat, 3.5-4.5.

Slough now have a perfect 12/12 and 38.5 game points out of 48 ahead of Wood Green 8/12 and 27/48, Invicta Knights 8 and 25.5 and Barbican 1 8 and 24; while last year's champions Bigwood (Midland Monarchs as was) have 7 and 29.5.

This is Miles's crisp win on Saturday. Black usually plays 4... Bb4+ in this rather obscure line. In the game, he quickly fell behind in development though 7 ... dxc4 8 Qxc4 Nd6 9 Qxb4 e4 was rather more challenging. Certainly not 13 Qd1??

14 ... Bxc3?? was a gross blunder though 14 ... Bb7 is pretty grim after either 15 Rd1 Bxc3 16 bxc3 when the black squares are very weak or 15 Bxd5 Bxd5 16 Nxd5 Qxd5 17 Rd1 with a dangerous initiative. At the end if 15 ... Qxd5 16.Rd1.

White: Tony Miles Black: Gavin Wall 4NCL 1999 **English Opening**

1 c4 g6 8 dxe5 Nxd5 2 e4 e5 10 Bg5 Qd7 3 d4 Nf6 11 a3 b5? 4 Nf3 Nxe4 12 Be4 c4 5 Bd3 Bb4+ 13 Qc2 Ba5 6 Kf1! d5 14 Nc3 Bxc3?? 7 Qb3 c5?! 15 Bxd5 1-0 8 cxd5 Nf6

CREATIVITY

MORE LEAP-SECOND Knock-On Consequences: John Harvey reschedules Cornwall's eclipse as that asteroid arrives early and blots out sunlight for 20 minutes every hour, causing an entirely new strain of mad cow disease. And Nigel Plevin is now telepathic. foreseeing Loki's Stonehenge realignment, Carla's space-time continuum and John's asteroid. Weird!

So: what does a newspaper print when there is no news? And specifically, bow do you use a 450-word Creativity column in a week with no contributions?

Minnie & Mai Liszt suggest an aesthetic white space, achieved by typing 2,700 consecutive space bars (taking five characters to be a typesetter's notional "word"); Martin Brown donates the space to the European Space Agency to explore; Oliver Reed builds a space station with 2,700 space bars; Jack Island, with 2,700 space bars on the only window. Les Dawson suggests a game of Blankety-Blank, in which his guests would be Raymond Briggs's The Snowman, The Great White Hope, a polar bear, Caspar the Ghost, a White Russian and The Invisible Man, who would all wear blank expressions and be paid with

blank cheques. David Ridge would fill it with pictures of mermaids and their irresistible songs; Nic Coidan with join-the-dots puzzles, Rory Jacques with ink blots, Amanda L Brock and Julie Orsett with fractals, Roland de Dyce with a Snakes and Ladders board, Maguy Higgs

with pornography in Sanskrit and Martha Maddox with π to 2,699 decimal places.

Pierre de Fermat regards the space as an ample margin in which to write a marvellous proof of a theorem he has discovered, and thereby cure Martha Maddox's headaches for the next 300 years.

Bruce Birchall would fill it with Bayeux Tapestry pictures depicting famous Pursuits: Galabad and the Holy Grail, William Rufus and the wild boar, St George and the dragon. Susan Tomes would cut out the empty column, erect it in Trafalgar Square, stand on it, and become an instant tourist attraction. (Grapple fans might quite like a half-Nelson?)

Photographic ideas were Paul Turner with snaps of Creativity prizewinners for jealous losers to stick pins in, Mae (sic) Hall with Marie Lloyd, Ted Horne with the Marie Celeste, and the Moonies

John Harvey and David Ridge win copies of Chambers Dictionary of Quotations, as does Ian Hurdley for issuing a timely challenge: suggest further causes for another round of ministerial resignations.

Ideas please to Creativity, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL or e-mailed to Loki.Valhalla@bt internet.com by 4 February. Three prizes of Chambers Dictionary of Quotations to be announced on 9 February, one of which may be awarded for suggesting a challenge. On 2 February we stretch our imaginations with ways to use elastic bands.

•

SATELLITE AND CABLE

fected their lives.

With Anne McKenzie.

10.00 The World Tonight.

(68336), 10,00 Fly Away Home (1996) (77256), 12,00 The Directors (27733) See Pick of the Day, 100 Hobywood Buzz (15171). 2.00 One Fine Day (1996) (44607). 11 4.2 4.00 Sinlen Women (1996) (3065), **8.00**Fly Away Home (1996) (3777), **8.00** One

Fine Day (1996) (36688), **10.00** Gottl (1996) (74850268), 12.05 The Juror (1996) (330843). 2.05 The Abyse (1989) (44113447), 4.25 - 6.00 The Directors 7.15 What a Way to Go! (1964) (11056572). 9.00 An Unexpected Family (1996) (40930). 11.00 Tell Me No Lies (1991) (31084), 1.00 What a Way to Gol (1964) (1046) 3.00 The Hired Heart (1997) 1220) 5.00 Tell Me No Lies (1991)

NO ONE WOULD ever accuse they display an infantile delight film-makers Jim Abrahams in puncturing pomposity. Their and David Zucker of being uniquely daft sense of humour is intellectuals. But that's their celebrated in The Directors (12noon Sky Premier).

Surfing, with its quasi-mythical verbal gags - remember the overtones, has long been an singing nun whose swinging attractive theme for film-makers. guitar knocked out a sick girl's Kathryn Bigelow uses it well life-support system in Airplane! as a backdrop for Point Break (10pm FilmFour), a neat crime and Hot Shots cycles - often thriller starring Keanu Reeves JAMES RAMPTON



Raily (64263), 12,30 Close

12.00 Polo Championships 1998 (58682268). **1.00** Tany Dean Outdoors (58845881). **1.30** Fish TV (58682404). **2.00** Shelf's Wonderful World of Golf (13483423). 3.00 Golden Age of Flacing (19103268). 3.30 World Motorsport (41330607), 6.30 Americana Outdoors (42254794), 7.00 Cricket England vs Australia (18657030). 10.00 Superbouts (40634404), 11.00 Olympic Series (52783171), 11.30 Close . EUROSPORT

Skeling (3664510), 9.30 Figure Skeling (85539), 10.00 Termis (82881), 11.00 Nordic Combined Sking (29959), 12.00 UK GOLD 7.00 Crossroads (1036323), 7.30 Neighbours (9646442), 7.55 EastEnders

(1577201), 8.30 The BB (8935152), 9.30 The House of Eliott (2975807), 10.30 Phoda (8922688), **+LDQ** Deltas (8340423) 11.55 Neighbours (98129171). 12.25 East-Enders (7043775). **1.00** Julet Bravo (445336). **2.00** Dales (555084). **2.55** The Bil (108201), 3.55 EastEnders (3982171). 4.30 Rhoda (461248), 5.00 All Creatures Great and Small (1927065); 6.00 Dynasty (4495572). 7,00 2point4 Children (9279794) 7.40 It Aint Half Hot, Mum (1378442), 8.20 Yes, Minister (3168404). 9.00 Red Dwarf IV (4282249), 9.40 Ruby Wax Meets... Partiela Anderson (7696794), 10.15 NYPD Blue (29956591). 11.20 The Bit (9072688). 12.20 Backup (6935379). 1.15 Ivanhoe

6.00 Tiny (49218881), 6.20 Philbert 6.45 Tiny Tales (17326201), 6.50 Poles Dot Shorts (17347794), 7.00 Perenting (5607336), 7.05 Professor Bubble S681917). 7.30 Callou (5504510). 7.35 Bug Alert (6651046), 7.55 Parenting (6125862). 9.00 Barney (2316591). 8.30 Tiny Tales (784862). 8.35 Tiny and Crew (8292572).

(3336930), 10.00 Jerry Springer (6191775). 10.50 Maury Povich (5848442), 11.40 Brookside (56749084), 12.50 Animal Rescue (74930249), 12.40 Rescue 911 (13058336). **140** Special Babies (23315775). **1.40** Beyond Ballet (79981046). **2.10** LA Law (3920171), 3.40 Living Room (7856152). 1.00 Michael Cole (4450775). 4.50 Rolo da (7653189), 5.40 Ready, Steady, Cook (7184442). 6.15 Jerry Springer (1372171). 7.05 Rescue 911 (4562881), 7.35 Aritre Rescue (9845200), 8.00 Murder Call [7983572], 9.00 Film: In My Deuxitter's Name (1992) (7903958). 11.00 Sex Life Down Under (3058572), 12.00 Close . THE 9.00 Blow-Up (1966) (40645570). 11.00 Tick - Tick - Tick (1970) (21847336), 1.00 All

8,50 Parenting (9701882), 9,00 Diet Show

(2339442), 9.30 Roseanne Show

The Fine Young Cannibals (1960) (21898060). 3.00 Blow-Up (1966) 29683468). 5.00 Close . PARAMOUNT COMEDY CHARRIEL 7.00 Clueless (1862). 7.30 Grace under

Fire (4881). 8.00 Roseanne (8210). 8.30 Newsradio (6317), 9.00 Cytoli (57084). 9.30 Vic Reeves' Big Night Out (81713). 10.00 Frasier (44794), 10.30 Cheen 53442 1100 Selnield (39200 1130 The Larry Sanders Show (W779), 12.00 David Lettermen (42602). 1.00 Text (36114). 1.30 The Critic (57195), 2.00 Dr Katz (36263), 2.30 Soap (55396), 3.00 Wings (16350). 3.30 Nightstand (39350). 4.00 Close . GRANADA PLUS

6.00 Within These Walls (9094997), 7.00 On the Buses (4482571), 7.30 Doctor in the House (1442255). 8.00 That's My Boy (5248862). 8-30 Up the Garden Path (5245133), 9.00 Coronation Street (5289713), 9.30 Emmerdale (8986201) 10.00 thrysomething (9547620). 11.00 Hawaii Five-O (5147864). 12.00 Coronation Street (5256249). 12.30 Emmerdale (8997317). **1.00** Nearest and Dearest (5842012). **1.30** Agony (8996689). **2.00** thirtysomething (8083429). **3.00** The Love Boat (7948978). **4.00** The Saint (7958719). 5.00 Hawaii Five-O (5989591), 8.00 Emmerdale (5453077), 6.30 Coronetion Street (6290779), **7.00** Mission impossible (5361930), **8.00** The Love Boat (5387978). 9.00 Coronation Street (7954997). 9,30 The Comedians (8900881). 10.00 The Jok ar's Wild (5257978), 10.30 Hogan's Heroes 66626). 11.00 As Granada Man & Motors 149253361, 2.00 Close .

PICK OF THE DAY

strength. Their films glory in dumb and dumber visual and In the Airplane! Naked Gun aided by the deadpan comic (right) and Patrick Swayze. skills of actor Leslie Nielsen -

12.30 The Grotesque (1995) (576843) 2.15 In the Bleak Midwinter (1996) (573718) 3.55 SKY ONE 7.00 Count Duckuta (83133). 7.30 The Simpsons (46828), **8.30** Hollywood Squares (72978), **9.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (99355). 10.00 Oprah Winfrey (91152), **11.00** Guiltyl (88685), **12.00** Jerry Jones (13713), 1.00 Mad about You (82404), **1.30** Jeoperdy (27779), **2.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (79442), **3.00** Jenny Jones (45143), 4.00 Guiltyl (21268), 5.00 Star Treic Deep Space Nine (1161). 8.00 Married with Children (4423). 6.30 Dream Team (5775), 7.00 The Simpsons (1220). 8.00 Rescue Medics (7268), 8.30 Coppers (6775). 9.00 World's Wildest Police 626), 10.00 Greece Uncovered Visios (525), 10,00 Green Team (2297), 11,30 (55713), 11,00 Dream Team (2297), 11,30 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (54404), 12,30 Highlander (45824), 1,30 - 7,00

> SKY SPORTS 1 5KY SPORTS 1
> 7.00 Sports Centre (3297341), 7:15 V-Mex (270538), 7:45 H2O (2625KI), 8:15 Sports Centre (4839572), 8:30 Racing News (4807), 9:00 Aerobics (32959), 9:30 You're on Sky Sports (9959), 10:00 Footbal League (26862), 11:00 Thathlon (46625), 12:00 Aerobics (45423), 12:30 Footbal (7907), 20 D Tristenort Sky00, 2:30 (17607). 2.00 Totalsport (9404). 2.30
> Windsuring (2046). 3.00 Spanish Footbell (51423). 4.00 H2O (6626). 4.30 Totalsport (5510). 5.00 Outdoor Quest (2391). 6.00 Sports Centre (3775), 6.30 Scottish Foot-bell (10133), 7.30 Fastrax (3539), 8.00 Premier Snooker League (85978), 10.00 Sports Centre (481881), 10.15 You're on

Long Play (5500756).

Sky Sports (501048), 10.45 Scottish Foot-ball (275404), 11.45 Sports Centre (393355). 12.00 You're on Sky Sports (79195), 12.30 Premier Snooker League (45878), 2.30 Fastrax (57756), 3.00 Sports Centre (97326973), 3.15 Close SKY SPORTS 2

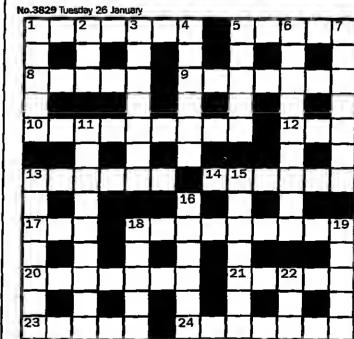
7.00 Aerobics (9223882), 7.30 Cricket England vs Australia (3499978), 11.00 Table Termis: Grand Final (9228377), 12.00 Outdoor Quest (7254713), 1,00 V-Max (9222133), 1.30 Cricket England vs Australia (4700188). 4.30 Gott: LPGA Naples Memorial (7861713) 6.30 Sports Unimited (2997930), 7.30 Worthington Cup Footbell (8097797), 10.00 Golf: LPGA Naples Memorial (2348220), 12.00 Outdoor Quest (6987534). 1.00 Worthington Cup Footbell (3830534), 2.30 Sports Centre (80466534). 2.45 Close . SKY SPORTS 3

7.30 Rally (22046), 8.00 Tennis (7335201). 12.00 Termis (18355), 2.00 Figure Skating (58065), 4.00 Termis (83220), 5.30 Figure

(6210624). 2.10 Live at Jongleurs (4771669). 2.45 - 7.00 Shopping (5246502).

(29101268), 6,30 Johnson (64909064),

CONCISE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

Wage packet enclosure (7) Plate for consecrated bread

Explosive ingredient (5) Accommodation (7) 10 In an undertone (5,4) 12 Insect (3)

Merciful (6) Mammary gland (6) 17 Mass of fish eggs (3) 18 Pub employee (9) 20 Flexible (7)

21 Joint (5) 23 Quarrel (5) 24 Hold spellbound (7)

Leave unteoded (7) 11 Moderate (9) 13 Seat belt (7) 15 Vote in agam (2-5) 16 Source of wisdom (6) 18 Wash (5) 19 Part of spur (5) 2? Prohibit (3)

DOWN

Uoderwear (5)

Whiteoess (6)

Clergyman (5)

Rear part of truck (9)

Still (3) Take a rest (3.4)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Ferry, 4 Hungary (Very hungry), 8 Lumbago, 9 Liana, 10 Again, 11 Lineour, 13 Edam, 15 Encode, 17 Appear, 20 Arms, 22 Cuticle, 24 Alias, 26 Moron, 27 Uptight, 28 Leeward, 29 Ratio, DOWN: 1 Foliage, 2 Rumba, 3 Yearned, 4 Hoop-la, 5 Nylon, 6 Abalone, 7 Yeast, 12 Imam, 14 Deal, 16 Coterie, 18 Psalter, 19 Risotto, 21 Refund, 22 Camel, 23

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N ERFLAND BSC1 N RELAND
As BSC1 LONDON & SE except:
6.30 Newstine 630 (423), 10.30 Spotlight (4471), 11.00 Paddington Green (7684), 11.30 Ladies' Night: an Inside Story Special (29671), 12.20 Crimewatch UK Update (9227992), 12.30 Film: The Honkers (296718), 2.40 BSC News 24 (74901821).

BBC1 SCOTLAND
As BBC1 LONDON & SE excepts
12.30 Dotaman (7729794) 12.45
Doctaids Mor (Oakey Doke) (5432830),
6.00 News (77), 6.30 Reporting Scotlan
(423, 12.05 Scotlish Questions (897534)
12.55 News 24 (57735602).

BBC1 WALES As BBC1 LONDON & SE except: 6-20 Wales Today (423) 10-30 Week in disk Out (4417), 11.00 Paddington Gree (7084) 11.30 Ladies' Night: an Inside Story Special (289423) 42.25 Crimewatch UK Update (929283) 12.35 Snooter (9787283) 1.25 John BBC News 24

ANGLIA As Cariton except: 12.20 Angla News and Wester (633423), 1.00 Stortland Street (1657046), 1.35 Home and Away (65915572), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (2437861), 3.20 Angla News and Weather .

(2521065), 6.00 Anglia News (599), 6.30 About Anglia (591), 7.30 Lizas Country (775), 10.30 Anglia News and Weather (55575), 11.40 Go Fehing with John Wilson (25510), 12.50 Jerny (5618621), 12.40 The Haunted Fishtank (5554911), 1.30 Highlander (380891), 2.30 Planet Pock Profiles (8501469, 2.35 Wish You Wer Here.? (7456263), 3.00 Judge Judy (31897355), 4.20 Coach (56489391, 4.45 ITV Nichtsens 6001911). creen (5091911).

CENTRAL CENTRAL.
As Cariton except: 12.20 Central
News and Westher (65/3423). 1.00 Headiners (55/30). 3.20 Central News (252/085).
5:40 Shortlend Street (5250274). 6.00
Home and Away (937/084). 6.25 Central
News and Westher (444/04). 7.30 Landladies (775). 10.30 Central News and
Westher (5557/5). 11.40 Central Sports
Special (463/33). 4.20 Jobinder (637/701).
5:20 Asian Eye (485/7089).

HTTY WALES As Cariton except: 10.30 This Moming (29770807), 12.15 HTV News (51910), 130 Home and Away (5337), 2.00 The Jeny Springer Snow (243788), 3.20 HTV News (2521065), 5.30 A Country Practice (525027), 6.00 Home and Away (537084). 6.25 Weies Tonight (44404), 7.30 Fishlock's Wild Tracks (775), 10.30 HTV News (555715), 11.40 The Front Row (50681), 12.40 The Haunted Fishterik (5654911), 130 Highlender (3808911), 2.70 Planet Rock Profiles (550486), 2.35 Wist You Were Here., 7 (7455263), 3.00 Judge Judy (31697356), 4.20 Coech (5549396), 4.45 [TV Nightsoreen (5091911).

HTV WEST As HTV Wates except: 6.25 HTV West Water (28922), 6.30 The West Toright (591), 7.30 West Eye View (775), 11.40 Pleasure Guide (21510), 12.50 Tales from the Crypt (5518621). MERIDIAN As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morn-

As Carlton except: 10.30 This Morring (24770607), 12.35 Meriden News and Weather (997775), 1.00 Shortland Street (197048), 1.35 Home and Away (9595572), 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (243783)), 3.20 Meriden News and Weather (2521055), 5.40 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 5.37 Three Minutes (65950), 3.00 Home and Away (525024), 3.00 6.00 Meridian Torright (539), 6.30 Surprise Chels (591). 7.30 Wildlie SOS (775), 10.30 Meridian News and Weather (555715). 11.40 cybercale (213510). 12.10 Hope and Gloria (5518821). 12.40 The Haunted Pishtank (5554911). 1.10 Highlander (3806911).

230 Planet Rock Profiles (\$501456), 2,35 Wish You Were Here...? (7455263), 3,00 Judge Judy (\$1697356), 4,20 Coach (\$545368), 4,45 ITV Nightscreen (\$545368), 4,45 ITV Nightscreen (88047089), 5.00 Freescreen (95756). WESTCOUNTRY

WESTCOUNTRY

As Cariton except: 10.30 This Morning (247/0607), 12.15 Westcountry News (9897775), 12.27 flurnisations (852/442), 1.00 Emmerdels (915/0), 3.20 Westcountry News (252/055), 5.00 Westcountry Live (82065), 7.30 Wild West Country (775), 10.30 Westcountry News (55575), 11.40 Arastony of Disaster (91086), 12.40 The Haunted Fishtank (565491), 1.10 Highlander (360691), 2.30 Planet Rock Profiles (960/469, 2.35 Wish You Ware Hera..? (7455263), 3.00 Judge Judy (3/867355), 4.20 Coach (9547836), 4.45 ITV Nightspreen (509791).

YORKSHIRE As Cartton except: 12.20 Calendar News and Weather (5513423), 1.00 Home and Away (82182201). 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (8026152). 2.10 Coronation Street (3655220). 3.20 Catendar News Headines (252/063), 5.40 News; Weather (949688), 5.55 Calendar (385249), 6.30 Tonight (591), 7.30 QE2 bah i'at (775). 10.30 Calendar News and Weather (555715), **11.40** Renegade (463133), **4.20** Jobfinder (5716379). TYNE TEES

TYNE TERS
As Yorkshire except: 12.20 North
East News and Weather (853423). 3.20
North East News Headines (853055).
5.35 North East Weather (859794). 6.00
North East Toright (82085). 7.30 Grundy
Goes... (775). 10.30 North East News and
Weather (85575). 11.40 North Pack Mesch

As Channel 4 except: 8.00 Yego-lor/Schools (0473423), 12.00 Bewinhed (818398), 12.30 Sesams Street (38103510), 1.00 Planed Plant (4753073), 1.30 Colectors' Lot (24955626), 1.25 Film: Do Not Disturb \$2536976), 4.30 Dishes \$6508336), 5.00 Planed Plant: Un-ed 5 (32535846), 5.30 Countdown ed 5 (32535846), 5.30 COLUMBOW) (5889688), 6.00 Newyddion (89778978), 640 Heno (9547075), 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (58335602), 7.30 Newyddion (56808065), 8.00 Y Sloe Gelf (40630210), 8.30 Pengeli (5985107), 10.00 Brookside (54657978), 10.25 Mayday (56954288), 11.35 The Real Holding Show (68954242), 12.05 Film: On the Buses (37771282), 140 Short Stories (51387282), 240 Close(). 4.00 Yagolion (81802905).

and Period 3 Highs To

LT 1

eoperation (in the control of the c

itali Circle Bar Tan

\$473 - -

Direction of the second of the

の 大学 (1985年) (1985年)

Pality Telega Tilder Video Video Video Tilder

5.00 Kilroy (S) (T) (820/201). 9.45 The Var (S) (T) (5670171). 10.55 News; Regional Ne (T) (7548065). 11.00 Reel Rooms (S) (7558 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S) (T) (7528207). 1 Regional News; Weather (T) (178897). 12.4 Bluff (S) (34794). 12.30 Wipsout (S) (3008 The Weather Show (S) (T) (55890794). 1.00 Weather (T) (66442). 1.30 Regional News (88230201). 1.40 Neighbours (S) (T) (65927 Ironside (R) (7203591). 2.55 Body Spies (S)

TELEVISION REVIEW

o coincide with the report of North Wales child abuse mai, Place of Safety
C2) aurveyed the scandal the reasons why it took ang to come to light. A cession of victims, mainly naminly in early middle-treatled the treatment y were subjected to while care" in homes in North les. Beatings and rape were time, along with e variety of ner forms of violence and rutal abuse. There was no refrom this regime. One boy nt to Bryn Estyn, the home iside Wrexham which was a centre of the allegations, id been warned by his older other; a previous inruste,

In 1988 – following the death of a 16-year-old boy – Alison Taylor, a social worker, began to doubt the efficacy of the care system. After talking to children in care, she realised that violence was widespread in local authority homes throughout North Wales. When she took her case to the police, they dismissed it on the grounds that she was seditious and subrersive, and had possibly even bribed children to invent their stories for her own cloudy reasons. She was subsequently sacked by social services for "gross misconduct". excursions into modern seamlness, the series is clearly trying hard to be more realistic than most about what policermee do. It also wants at least to prod at the morall y of prostitution, if not to probe it thoroughly. But it keeps slipping into cliche — ast night Stott became yet enother policeman having to be pulled off a sneering villain. And while it wants to explore moral ambiguity, the crosest we've got is the ludicrous aubplot about Dougie, an impressionable young copper, who is getting rather too involved in his work. Last night, he chained his girlifiend to the bed in an attempt to spice up their sex life, dooming their relationship and the programme's chance of being taken seriously. There are west, twas appaued; but I also elit a little manipulated, and anhappy that the programme elit it had to cajole outrage from out of me.

The Vice (TIV) has a lifterent way of presing the viewer into moral indignation: it just homes in on pulceman Ken Stott, sincerity and aufforing speaking from his worried brown eyes and crinkly smile. With its ecclesiastical overtones (Stott's character is called Chappel; his sergeant is a devout Christian) and its excursions into modern

10

EestEndera. The day of the Inquest, and Irene le puzzled by Terry's recent behaviour. But eurely Terry's behaviour is never short of puzzling (S) (T) (607).

5.50 to Paddington Gresn. Twelve-year-old sta school wannabas (S) (T) (215248).

01:0][N] Crimswetch UK 150. Nick Ross and Jill Dando hoat a specisi hour-long edition of the r (T) (2539).

Paddington Green. West-London doau-scap. Jackle McAuliffe is about to take an incredible gamble with her appearance (B) (T) (44171).

12.05 IIIII The Honkers (Steve linet 1972 US). James Coburn playe an againg rodeo star in this drama madi in the same year as the eimilarly themed (and much batter) Junior Borner (Followed by Weather) (498945).
2.00 Joins 56C News 24 (4345244). To 6am. **illes' Night.** Mala airippers – how very 1988, sed, this is a repeat of Rachel Coughton's *Inside y* from last year about a troupe of Welsh male opers (R) (S) (T) (679897). stoh UK Updets (S) (T) (452572).

FRIMEWATCH UK 150 (830pm BBC1, right) After 14 years, 50 programmes, 1,742 appeals and 603 arrests, Crimewatch JK gives itself a pet on the back. Nick Ross and Jill Dando look back at some of the major cases which have been solved with the help of viewers (including the James Bulger wirder, the Stephanie Slater kidnsp and the Russell help of the way of the stephanie slater kidnsp and the detectives had

SUBSTACE OF A STATE OF

CRIME SHOW OF THE DAY

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

THE TIMOR CONSPIRACY (10.40pm ITV, right) John Pilger continues his one-man crusade to bring the pilgit of East Timor to the oftention of a world which can get incensed by attempted genocide in one region white virtually ignoring it in another. This is a follow-up to Pilger's 1994 documentary. Death of o Nation, which catalogued the carnoge wrought by Indonesia in East Timor in the two decades since its invasion of the former Portuguese colony. Things have apparently improved—slightly—since President Suharro's fall from power last year. But is the Labour government helping matters by selling more errms to Indonesia than the Tories had?

BBC2

BBC1

5.00 Tennie - the Austrelien Open. Highlights of the men's and women's quarter-finals (S) (9133).

6.00 Fresh Prince of Gel Air (R) (S) (T) (800830).

Heertbreek High. Australish echoolchildren. Tania aaks Ryan to poea for her, but Sereh does not approve (S) (T) (1808st).

7:10 The O Zone. Blandle discuss/plug their recencements to comeback tour (5) (T) (948510).

7.00

6.00 University Challenge. De Montfort faca Bristot University (B) (T) (6510). 7.30 From the Edge. Meets tha wheelcheir-using war correspondent John Hockenberry and assesses the Government's White Paper on transport (S) (T) (249)

Riok Stein's Sentcod Odyasey. Shark vindaloo -now there's one for the leds. And this week, he's in Gos and America's Cheespeeke Bay (S) (T) (2317).

9.00 Great Reliway Journeye. Rick Stein again. The Cornish chef crosses Mexico from the Pacific to the Atlantic Doean, trevelling through the spectacular Copper Cenyon and Sierra Madre mountains to Mexico City (S) (872201).

10.30 Newenight. With Jeremy Paxm

10,40

ion Tonight (T) (555715).

114B Geinteld (S) (T) (790959).

12.00 Ocepatch Sox (5) (88447), 12.30 BBC Learning Zone: Open University – What is Religion? (T) (8545 1.00 Looking for Hindulem in Calcutta (T) (12337),

Children's ITV: Mopatop's Shop (251688). 3.35 Rosie and Jim (5) (8044662). 3.50 The Wombles (5) (9897830). 4.00 Cow and Chicken (S) (T) (9129094). 4.26 Mike and Angelo (S) (T) (2037694). 4.50 How I (S) (T) (9700336). 5.10 Home and Away (T) (5250274)

Newe; Weether (T) (895355).

London Tonight. Regional news update for tha capital and the South-East (T) (539).

Good Stuft. Rowland Rivron and Wendy Douglas present their entertainment guida (S) (591).

7.30

lews | Weather (7) (20591).

11.30 Oope Sheet (788046). 12.05 Beyond Dope Sheet (1846553).

TV Carlton

25 Triehe (S) (T) (3103987). 10.30 This Morning (T) (55899084). 12.20 Your Shout (5513423). 12.30 News: Weather (T) (54048). 1.00 London Today (T) (51510). 1.30 The Jarry Springer Show (S) (T) (8542976). 2.15 Home and Away (S) (T) (450713). 2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (S) (T) (450084). 3.15 ITN News Headlines (T) (2524152). 3.20 London Today (T)

Emmerdele. Chris reveals the strength of his love for kathy, and Will gets some shocking news (S) (T) (1668).

First Edition. Tracing the 44-year campaign lad by iris Bentley to clear the name of har brother, Darek, who was hanged for murder in 1953 (775).

5.00

The Gill.: "Walking on Water". A body in a boat leads Beech and Daty into troubled waters in the first of this week's Iwo hour-long episodes (T) (5355).

[HIDIN] The Timer Conspiracy. John Pilger reports on indensatis on-going occupation of the former Portuguese colony of East Timor. Sas Documentary of the Day, ballow (S) (T) (897930).

11.00 Short Sforlea: The Chilling Fields. Novice director Stuart Mitchells documentary goes behind the ecanes at Creamfields – line open-sir reve which took place in Hampshira ast April (2274).

hannel

11.30 Power 12,30 I Powerhouse (9442), 12.00 Sasame Street (27404). 12.30 Bewitchad (R) (S) (52888). 1.00 Pet Rescue (R) (S) (T) (59152). 1.25 Roots to Success (96263539).

Rampton Court Palaca (T) (997). 4.00 Fifteen to One (R) (S) (T) (404). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (689). 5.00 Ricki Lake (2794). 5.30 Pet Rescue (288).

Chennel 4 News; Weather, including headlinas at 7.30pm (S) (T) (575220).

7.50 Music of the Millennium. Tanita Tikaram makes the case for her favourite einger of ell time (171048). **Grookside.** Niamit is optimistic about the future, apparently – which sounds like the most momentous folly given where she is living (S) (T) (8978).

6.30 Ciscolo Aircraft. The advent ol line jet aga is remembered thie weak – when the British lad the way and planes came with nemes like Vampire, Lightning and Vulcan (T) (9323).

Stetion X. The second in this absorbing eeries about the Sacond World War code-breakers at Bistchley Park. concentrates on the part played by mathematician Alan Turing in breaking German naval codes in 1541 (T) (3133).

10.00 Father Ted. TV personality Henry Sellers arrives to Judge the All-Priests Stars-in-Their-Eyes Lookalike Competition (R) (S) (T) (28133).

Gob and Margaret. Animalion shout a married couple, Bob and Margaret decide they nead to get fit (37891).

O Renegede (S) (910881). 12.40 World of Wonder (1493060). 12.50 The Heunted Fishtank (5561824). 1.20 Hightender (R) (1358282). 2.15 Planet Rock Profiles (R) (S) (9500737). 2.40 Wish You Were Here...? (R) (S) (T) (7447244). 3.05 Judge Judy (S) (T) (28008008). 3.25 Nationwide Football League Extra (4011282). 4.20 ITV Nightscreen (T) (9718378). 5.30 ITN Morning News (74902). 10 Barn. 1.40 [8:10][N] Emperor of the North (Robert Aldrich 1973 US). Lee Mervin and Ernest Borgnine star in thia Depression-era tale of a train-jumping hobo. See Film the Dey, below (50300485). To 3.50am.

FILM OF THE DAY

hannel

THE TUESDAY REVIEW
The Independent 26 January 1999

IF

5.00 Seeame Street (10336). **7.00** The Big Breskfest (S) (56065).

9.00 Chennel 4 Schools: Science in Focus (8015775), 9.20 What the Papers Said (7823572), 5.30 Eurekal (8877591), 5.45 Stop, Look, Lieten (8872046), 10.00 The Number Crew (4310775), 10.40 TVM (9085335), 10.25 How We Used to Live (9097171), 10.45 Worlds of Faith (5489713), 11.00 First Edition VI (8018959), 11.15 Stage Ons (5022510).

1.50 1311(1) Apartment for Peggy (Georga Seaton 1948
US). Postwar domestic drama starring William Holdsn
and Jeanne Crain as newlyweds struggling through
university. Breazy stuff, with Holden and Crain upstaged
by old timere Edmund Gwenn and Gane Lockhert
(Attention) Excellent, Emmy-winning TV movia about the US radio and TV personality John Hanry Faulk. His career was derailed during the 1950s when he was blacklisted for being e communist, but he fought back by issuing a libel writ against his accusers. With William Devana as Faulk, and Georga C Scott as his brilliant ettorney, Louis Nizer (T) (9166930). (R) (S) (T) (9530084). **7.30** Milkshakel (S) (4550107). **7.35** Wimzies House (R) (9261897). **5.00** Hsvakazoo (R) (S) (1601888). **5.30** Dappledown Farm (R) (S) (1500959). **9.00** Weather Front (R) (S) (220717). **5.25** Russell Grant's Postcarde (4236626). **9.30** Tha Oprah Winfrey Show (6053133). **10.20** Sunset Beach (S) (T) (2651881). **11.10** Lezza (S) (2546807). **12.00** 5 News at Noon (S) (T) (1604775). **12.30** Family Affairs (S) (T) (9470404). **1.00** The Bold and the Baeutfful (S) (T) (9538355). **1.30** The Rossanne Show (R) (S) (9479775). **2.00** 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (6880775). **2.30** Good Afternoon (S) (4099539).

6.00 King of the NIII. It is the battle of the ages when Hsnk and his irlends take on four teenagers in s game of paintball (R) (S) (T) (881). 8.00

6.30 Home Improvement. 7Im is thrilled when Randy brings home a girl from school (S) (133). 8.30 Family Atfairs. Arnie demands a cheque from Dave otherwise shell spill the beans. Pam falls to understand Nick's needs, probably very wisely (S) (T) (5742336).

7.30 Wild Flight. Owls and hawks (S) (T) (5734220)

Pertect Bables. A look at how parents can improve, correct or even dealign their bables in the womb, and during the first weeks of life. Mark Easton explains (5) (7) (5079688).

଼? 🐲 🛭 🗨

5,00

11.20 Two (S) (6962323).

12:15 The Jack Docherty Show (5) (7802379).

12.55 Live and Dangeroue (S) (5542621), 1.35 Live and Dangerous (continued) (S) (28902843), 3.48 Asian Football Show (S) (7015869), 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (3567756), 5.30 100 Per Cant (R) (S) (8055391), To 6am.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILDERT





LONII CINE SW7 de Ni-3 30| NFT 3232 2,30| (NC) fids octae The I 8,45 PRIP (VC2 Hore Snal-ding The Crisj The WAI Stre 558 Spri

IRII OP STATE OF STAT

7.00 5 News, including First on Five, National and International news with Kirsty Young (S) (T) (689458t)

مكان الاس

100 Per Cent. Remorseless, 100-queetlon quiz show (S) (5751084).

Suneet Seech (S) (T) (8622959).